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# Hobbies

The Magazine for Collectors

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ANIMATED DIAL CLOCKS

# HOBBIES

The Magazine for Collectors

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TOP - Figure 1 - Left to Right:  
Double Animation Junghans type Gristmill and Donkey Clock.  
The Negro with Moving Eyes. German made Clock.  
BOTTOM - Figure 2 - Left to Right:  
Bixby's Best Clock or Shoeshine Boy and Girl.  
Flirt, or Girl with Fan Clock.

## ANIMATED DIAL CLOCKS

By F. H. GRIFFITH

(SEE COVER)

Four fine animated dial clocks are shown on cover. They are as follows:

### TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT

Left: The Rocking Cradle or Nursemaid And Baby. This is a Junghans (German) type clock with double animation and very colorful dial.

Right: The Junghans Trapeze Performer clock.

### SECOND ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT:

Left: The Chew Virginia Leaf Tobacco or Chewing Man Clock, American made.

Right: Bennett Sloan & Co's. Mocha & Java Coffee or Woman Sipping Coffee Clock.

A few years ago while attending an antique show in Ohio the writer's attention was drawn to what seemed to be an unusual clock having an organ grinder and monkey on the dial. It was a Lux clock and the arm of the organ grinder turned the crank of the organ. The clock with its animation appealed to the writer and he bought it, not necessarily realizing that this was the beginning of an interesting, different field of collecting.

Well several years have passed since the above occasion and the so-called animated dial clocks have been an amazing experience for the writer, particularly with respect to the number of varieties and types that were made over the years.

Apparently, based on present knowledge, the greater number of the animated dial clocks were made in the United States and Germany, although there are numbers of English Smith clocks, and in recent times French Bayards. The earliest dated clock of this type, presently known, was made by the Waterbury Clock Company, patented September 11, 1877 and January 15, 1878. German made clocks of similar nature would seem to be shortly after this, however, certain ones could date in this same time period or possibly before. We are not sure yet and it is hoped that future research will enable us to establish more accurately the time period of the earlier German type.

In any case, both the United States and German made animated dial clocks are extremely interesting items, cleverly made with inexpensive works, and in certain ones rather ingenious mechanisms. Basically they consist of what we call single, double, and triple animation. As example, the previously mentioned Organ Grinder and Monkey is single animation, having the moving arm only. Others have two moving parts or figures on the dial, and some are known to have three animated representations. At this point the writer does not know if these type clocks were made with four or more moving figures or parts on the dial. Based on the ones that are known to exist, plus those that are known to have been made, there is no indication that there are any having more than triple animation.

The group of clocks under discussion have (along with other alarm and non-alarm regular type clocks having similar type cases) a general name of "tin can clocks," and this is in direct reference to their round tin can shape cases. They are what is known as "throw away clocks." That is to say, they were inexpensively made items and more often than not when they stopped running that was the end of the clock—not worth repairing or spending the money to do so. Fortunately for those of us today who are interested in these fascinating mechanical clocks some, when they stopped running, were put in the attic and forgotten about, and others were repaired and thus survived over the years till the present time. The fact that these clocks were "throw

## Old Mechanical Banks

Conducted by

By F. H. GRIFFITH

always" is a definite contributing factor to their scarcity today. Many of them are quite difficult to come by in any condition, and particularly so in better to fine condition. Take the dials, for example—they are paper, printed in colors and highly susceptible to staining, fading, age browning, and so on. The cases are quite thin, easily dented, and those in brass subject to cracking due to hardness in the forming process. The brass works, while sturdy, do not have great resistance to wear of the moving gears and parts. In their practical simplicity, however, the works (as compared to finer and better type mechanisms in other clocks) have a way of "wanting" to run and just seem to be less temperamental.

The writer has gained some knowledge of the working mechanism and parts of the animated dial clocks sim-

ply because of necessity he has done considerable tinkering, cleaning, and so on himself. This is due partly to the fact that it is difficult to get someone to do the work properly and carefully and take the time to do it this way. The writer had no particular knowledge of clockworks of this type, and as a matter of fact is not a clock collector as such. His interest is in the animation and the mechanism involved. The fact they are clocks does put them into two interest categories—certain clock collectors, and then those who have an interest in animated items such as mechanical banks, toys, and so on. A further example is the Blinking Eye type clock which has been a collector's item for some years now. We won't attempt to go into these at this point, sufficient to say they are an animated type clock with interest to clock

collectors, mechanical bank collectors, and others who like animated things of this type. In other words, some people are attracted to these as a clock and others as a mechanical or animated item. The appeal lies in the individual's interest.

Well, to get on with the animated dial clocks, we would like to refer you to the cover where four fine examples are shown. From left to right, top row first, they are as follows: The Rocking Cradle or Nursemaid And Baby. A Junghans (German) type clock with double animation and very colorful dial. Her right leg moves back and forth and the cradle rocks, the effect—the woman is rocking the cradle with her toe. Next is the rare, possibly most desirable of all, Junghans Trapeze Performer clock. The figure goes through great gyrations and the inside mechanism causing him to do so is unique and quite clever. The figure of the trapeze performer offers a variety of continuous action and this is different than most of the animated type where the same action is repeated and continuous. An attractive clock with colorful dial.

Second row is the Chew Virgin Leaf Tobacco or Chewing Man clock. This is American made and patented March 2, 1888. His teeth and tongue move up and down as though chewing—a realistic effect with an interesting, but rather unattractive face. The wording of the name is on a yellow circle, the numbers on a white circle, and the face flesh colors with blue-tinged, staring eyes. Bennet Sloan & Co.'s Mocha & Java Coffee or Woman Sipping Coffee clock is next. Another colorful item with the numbers in blue and the name lettering in red and yellow. She wears a bluish dust-er, brown shawl with blue stripes, and facial colors are realistic. Action—a nice bespectacled old lady sipping her coffee, her right hand holding the spoon moving up and down from the cup held in her left hand. In finalizing the four cover clocks, please note the two top row are of the alarm type (bell exposed), and the second or bottom row non-alarm.

Please refer to Figure 1 picturing two more desirable clocks. Left, the double animation Junghans type Gristmill And Donkey clock. Colorful dial, exposed bell alarm. Interesting is the dial alarm set and the second hand dial, both on the face of the clock with the animation. This is the only clock of this nature that the writer has seen made in this fashion. The action—the donkey moves his head up and down and the mill water-wheel revolves. The Negro With The Moving Eyes, right, is another German made clock. The action is as the name implies, his pupils go back and forth to the tick of the clock. A very colorful, attractive item.

Now to Figure 2. Here we have on the left the Bixby's Best clock or Shoeshine Boy And Girl. The shoeshine girl does not show too well in the photo, but in any case she is shining the shoe of the lady standing under the number 1. As with the others,



TOP - Figures 3 - Left to Right:

Girl Playing Mandolin.

Bull-fighter, or Torero.

BOTTOM - Figure 4 - Left to Right:

American mode Ansonia, Cupid, or Cherub Clock.

The Clockmaker, or Watchmaker.





TOP - Figure 5 - Left to Right:  
Chew Friendship Cut Plug,  
Chewing Man.

BOTTOM - Figure 6:  
Smaller Center Clock: Girl with Fan.  
Left and Right, Lux Clocks:  
Man with Mug,  
Church Bell in Steeple.

this has a nicely colored paper dial, and the bootblack in the foreground is actually a separate figure set out from the dial. His right arm and hand, holding the brush, go back and forth over the shoe. On the right is the Flirt or Girl With Fan clock. The fan held in her right hand moves up and down over her eyes very definitely giving the impression of what was called flirting. An attractive clock, good colors, well printed and defined.

Figure 3 shows the Girl Playing Mandolin on the left, and the Bull-fighter or Torero on the right. These two clocks are quite colorful, the Girl Playing Mandolin having a shiny surface paper dial, her right arm and hand move over the strings as though playing the instrument. It's an American clock and patented March 2, 1886. The Bull-fighter has realism in its action with the head of the bull moving up and down threatening the torero.

In Figure 4 we have two unusually fine animated clocks. The one on the left is somewhat of a departure as, strictly speaking, it is not an animated dial type; however, it well fits in the group. It is an American made

Ansonia, patented March 27, 1877. It variously is called the Cupid or Cherub clock and in action the figure rings the bell for the set alarm time. Note the figure holds a striking unit in its right hand. An appropriate animated dial clock is on the right. It is known as the Clockmaker or Watchmaker. In either case, unlike the other animated dial clocks, this one has a rather nice circular recessed section over the number 6 wherein we see the figure of the man holding a small hammer moving it up and down as though working on the vise-held part. Different and interesting.

Figure 5 pictures two fine companion clocks to the Chewing Man as shown on the cover. Here we have,

(Continued on page 52)

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By CHARLES FRENCH

The two hundredth anniversary of our Independence, 1976, will be here before we know it. Plans are formulating to celebrate this important historic event. Proposals are being made for innumerable medals, commemorative coins, and other items. What finally will be approved still is unknown.

This brings to mind the United States Centennial Exposition of 1876. Under Federal supervision, it was our first major World's Fair.

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When May arrived, the word was "Go!" President Grant arrived to open the fair officially. Little was it realized that, in only six months, attendance would reach 10,000,000 people.

The intent of the Fair was to show the world that we had "Grown Up" and became a nation of importance. Arts, products, manufactures proved to the world that we, in a century, had accomplished this. One of the outstanding displays was Alexander Graham Bell's first telephone.

Insofar as commemorative coins are concerned, they had not been thought of, the vogue of the day was medals. Philadelphia, the headquarters of the United States Mint, issued the official Centennial medals. A "Nevada" dollar, and many other commemoratives were available to honor specific events. Large bronzes were struck

## COINS FOR SALE

**FOREIGN COIN** grand special 1,000 assorted uncirculated \$15.00 pld. Equally divided among 10 countries. — Mark Coins, Campello, Mass. 02403 *as 126121*

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**OFFICIAL United States presidential medal**, 3-inch diameter, weighs 8 ounces, Nixon or Kennedy \$7.00 each, solid bronze. Silver dollars brilliant uncirculated 18795 or 19040 only \$4.29 each postpaid. — Apelman's, Madisonville, La. 70447 *ie3215*

**1955-5 LINCOLN** and 18 different "S" pennies, \$1.00. — Edmund Molzan, Box 275, Alameda, Calif. 94501 *ap6844*

by the Mint. They sold for \$2, gilt ones sold for \$5.

The Mint exhibit on the Fairgrounds issued limited quantities of silver at \$3. Smaller coins were issued in large quantities and sold for \$1 each.

The "Nevada" dollar which retailed for \$1.25, is quite rare today. All dies were destroyed when the Fair closed.

What will we have in 1976? There is agitation for a World's Fair. Commemorative coins are being promoted, as well as a change in design for our regular coinage. Medals galore are in the making. There will be commemorative stamps.

Beyond that, who knows? One thing is certain, America has grown, and stayed free, through bad times and good, to become the greatest nation on earth.

U.S. 1883 LIBERTY HEAD 5c. No CENTS. Fine	.....\$1.50
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20 Different ins. 1912-D	.....\$5.50
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Buffalo 5c. All S & D mints, 40 pcs.	.....\$5.75
<b>INDIAN HEAD CENTS:</b>	
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2 Different old U.S. large cents	.....\$5.00
2 Different U.S. 2-cent pieces	.....\$4.50
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<b>CONFEDERATE Genuine Notes:</b>	
50c - \$3.00; \$1.00 - \$4.00; \$2.00 - \$4.00	.....\$5.00 - \$2.00; \$10.00 - \$15.00; \$20.00 - \$2.00
\$50 Jeff. Davis - \$3.50; \$100 - \$4.00	.....\$20.00
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ROME, Empire 100-400 A.D. Small bronze	.....\$2.00
ROME, Empire about 100-200 A.D. Silver Denarius	.....\$7.50
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## AT THE SIGN OF THE CREST

(Continued from page 159)

salom b. ca. 1849. Corres. inv. See 3870.

3873 COLMAN. Want ances. John Colman b. 4-13-1797 Rockbridge, Co., Va. md. 1st Mary Massacer & 2d Sarah Barnhart 3-1-1836. To Franklin Co., Ohio by 1828 and d. Canal Winchester, Ohio 10-13-1848. Corres. inv. Mrs. G. Becker, 2435 Birchwood Lane, Wilmette, Ill 60091.

3784 BARNHART. Want ances. Sarah Barnhart b. 8-24-1805 Somerset Co., Pa., md. 1836 Franklin Co., Ohio, John Colman; died 7-18-1879 Canal Winchester, Ohio. Her mother Susan (maiden name?) b. 8-1-1783, d. 8-3-1858. Corres. inv. See 3873.

## THE MART

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RADIO Magazines wanted for WAAA historical library. Modern Electronics, Popular Electricity, Radio News, Science & Invention, Short Wave Craft, Wireless Age. — Wayne Nelson, Concord, N.C. 28025. j12466

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HAWAIIANA WANTED: Books, engravings, Monarchy items, almost anything historical about the Hawaiian Islands. Collection and price please. — Watters Martin, 1837 Kelakua #40, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815. jh3004

WANTED: Unusual Cupids for private collection. — Ward C. Olson, Scandinavia, Wis. 54977. Phone: 467-2263. mh3422

WANTED: Anything Boy Scout—Baden-Powell, Beard, Seton, Fiction, Handbooks, Patches, etc. — J. Froehlig, 2523 Upton Ave. No., Minneapolis, Minn. 55411. jh1271

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WANTED: Old ornaments, old creche items. — Joe Alford, 11554 Hallwood Dr., El Monte, Calif. 91732. jh3042

HAWAII WANTED: Buying books, artifacts, monarchy, memorabilia, engravings, paintings. Almost anything from Hawaii or Sandwich Islands. Write — Hawaiian Antiquities, Box 357, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815. n126331

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WANTED: Glass eye-cups. Please describe and price. — K. Woodard, 20942 Beechwood Hill, Huntington Beach, Calif. 92646. jh1288

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Vol. 76, No. 12

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Figure 1



Figure 2

# Fun-Producing Savings Banks

By F. H. GRIFFITH



## Old Mechanical Banks

Conducted by  
By F. H. GRIFFITH

Well, at long last, we can finally pass along information on a very interesting mechanical bank that could be just as well described as a "new find." It really isn't, however, since a few people (including the writer who has known of its existence for some years) have known of the bank in the past couple of years. Actually, the Fun Producing Bank, No. 205, in the numerical classification stayed pretty much under wraps (including a long stay in a bushel basket) for years in an old house in Adamsburg, Pa., in the possession of Squire Walter J. Henry.

The late Squire Henry was a very interesting man and in years of collecting he acquired a variety of fine antiques including a great collection of occupational shaving mugs, some

fine cast-iron toys, and a collection of mechanical banks. Included in the mechanical banks was an outstanding example of the Mikado and the very rare little scale bank we now have under discussion. This scale bank, particularly in the last couple of years, attained a degree of charisma since, when a few others learned of its existence, naturally the desire to own one increased and it became a subject of discussion, word passed around, and so on.

In any case, the Henry sales (a series of auctions) started three ago, 1971 being the third year. They went on at regular intervals beginning in the summer of 1969, then continuing the summer of 1970. None were held during the summer of 1971 largely

due to the Pittsburgh newspaper strike and the fact the sales could not be advertised therein. The auctions then resumed in the Fall of 1971 mainly advertised, however, by distribution of circulars. Then due to the unfortunate and untimely death of Squire Henry it was decided that all remaining items would be sold. This now brings us up to date, and to the Fun Producing Savings Bank sold at auction a few weeks ago and finally pictured herewith. No one was ever permitted to photograph the bank prior to its sale and it is the only bank in the writer's new book where it is necessary to use an original old catalog picture.

The Silver-Mirror Company of Chicago, Ill., was responsible for the Fun Producing Savings Bank. This company started in business February 2, 1914, for the purpose of selling premiums and give-aways by mail. The company went out of existence October 9, 1943. In a necessarily, somewhat limited way, former members of the company were contacted with no particular results in any specifics concerning the background of the bank under discussion. The firm had many products and lack of information with respect to the scale bank, one of their earlier items, is understandable under the circumstances.

Considerable help is offered by a Butler Bros. Catalog for 1918 which

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pictures this bank and offers it at 95c a dozen, packed one dozen to a box. The picture that appears in this catalog is completely accurate, depicts the bank just like it is, and it is the one the writer used in his new book on mechanical banks.

Figure 1 shows the bank ready for operation and Figure 2 after the action. The bank is set for operation by moving the small lever down into position as shown in Figure 1. This lever is shown in the up position after the action in Figure 2. The mechanism is activated by placing a penny in the provided slot in the top of the scale. As shown in Figure 1, the wording "Your Correct Weight" appears in a section of the upper part of the dial or face of the scale. When the coin is inserted into the slot this wording changes automatically and now reads "You Are Just One Cent Lighter" as shown in Figure 2. The wording is reset by means of the lever after each operation of the bank (pushed into the down position). Coins accumulate in the base and eventually fill up the column through which they fall. A clever, quite different mechanical bank.

Other wording appearing on the bank and shown in both photos: On the dial - "One Cent Platform Scales Company;" on the front of the base - "Guess Your Weight Get Your Money Back." The underside of the base is particularly interesting and the following appears thereon: "Fun Producing Savings Bank" - Price 15 cents - The Silver-Mirror Company, Inc., 123 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill."

The bank is an overall green. With one exception all lettering is in black on white backgrounds. The one exception is the white wording "You Are Just One Cent Lighter" on a black background.

By far the greater percentage of the cast iron mechanicals were made in the United States. Not so with the tin mechanicals - the greater percentage of these are foreign, mainly Germany and some England. So it is nice, in this case The Fun Producing Savings Bank, to add another American made tin mechanical to this fine group of banks.

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# Why Coins Should be Authenticated

By CHARLES FRENCH

The year 1883 dawns, and it is not long before a change in our nickel's design is approved. Liberty's head, for the first time, graces the lowly nickel's obverse. On the reverse, a large "V" appears in the center to denote denomination. The coin resembled a five-dollar gold piece.

Josh Tatum, a small, fast-buck man and peddler of sorts, was in Boston. Always looking for an easy way to make a fast dollar, it dawned upon him that the new 1883 nickel resembled a five-dollar gold piece.

A friend who was a pawnbroker and second-hand jewelry dealer, possessed a gold-plating machine. Joe and his friend acquired around fifty dollars in the new nickels and gold plated them.

With a batch of these, Josh started on the road. His appearance was that of a prosperous business man.

He would enter a cigar store, point to a five-cent cigar and, without a word, would put down one of the

phony five-dollar gold pieces. He then would receive \$4.95 in change.

This first venture was so successful Josh and his friend invested in 5000 more nickels, and Josh went on the road working the towns and cities between Boston and New York. He got rid of a couple of thousand more before government agents caught him with several thousand of the gilt nickels in his possession.

Hundreds of witnesses testified that they had been cheated by Josh and that he owed them \$4.95. When they were asked if Josh had asked them for the \$4.95 change every answer was "No."

They all agreed that Josh just had put down the coins, pointed to what he wanted, had taken the change, and left. It easily was proven to be true for Josh was a deaf mute. The case was dismissed. There was no law stating that one could not gold plate coins!

After the trial, the United States

mint was authorized to change the reverse of the nickel and add the word "cents." A law also was passed making the defacement of a United States coin a crime.

When the corrected nickel appeared, rumor had it that the "Centless" nickel would be rare due to the short time it was coined. Thousands were put away.

In the early 20th century so many of these in excellent condition were available, early coin books used to specify that dealers would NOT buy them. This explains why they are found in such excellent condition today.

False rumors pop up frequently. The 1909 V.D.B. cent had the same rumor, as did the 1913 Buffalo nickel with raised ground. 1893 Columbian World's Fair half-dollars were hoarded in great quantities after they were released in circulation.

Josh Tatum, father of our slick operators, has had many copiers. I have seen 1914 cents with false "Ds", 1916 dimes with a "D" added, 1937 D Buffalo nickels with one leg cleverly removed to make it appear to be the "three legged nickel." 1895 silver dollars with mint mark removed. 1856 Eagle cents altered from 1858s. A four-dollar stella (the \$4 pattern gold piece struck on the Philadelphia mint 1879 and 1880), copper pattern that was gold plated.

One of the most ingenious was a 1916 D dime in a plexiglas holder. When opened it had two dimes, a 1916 Philadelphia, and another with a "D" mint mark back to back to look like a 1916D. So it goes.

Remember, if you are buying rarities, be sure to have them authenticated.

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**WANTED TO BUY:** U.S. coins, gold and obsolete currency. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1893 Charleston, W. Va. my122511

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**VETERAN AND VINTAGE CARS IN COLOR** by Michael Sedgwick, The Viking Press, Inc., 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Copyright 1971 by B. T. Batsford Ltd., 44 pages, 8 1/2" x 5 1/2", 64 plates in full color. Price \$1.95.

This utterly delightful pictorial record of the motor car's progress through the first 40 years of this century is a treasure for anyone who enjoys superb photographs of these splendid machines and their placement in perfect settings.

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The book's permanent value is assured by the expert, first light-colored, introduction and notes on the plates contributed by Michael Sedgwick, formerly Curator of the Montana Motor Museum, and renowned as an automobile historian and journalist.

All of the cars featured in this volume can be seen at the Raben Car Collection in Anholm Castle, Denmark, which contains more than 200 historic vehicles and is open to the public annually from Easter until the Fall.

**IN THE AGE OF MOTORING.** Drawings by Piero D'Amico, text by Robert Barker and Douglas B. Tubbs, The Viking Press, Inc., 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Copyright 1965, 1971 Edita S. A. Laysanne, 88 pages, 10 1/2" x 7 1/2", over 80 colored drawings, some photographs, index, price \$6.95.

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**See Our Display Ad** for stamps, old letters wanted in stamp department.—Herman Herst, Jr., Shrub Oak, N.Y. tfx

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(See Page 98H)



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## SAFE DEPOSIT BOX (TIN ELEPHANT)

By F. H. GRIFFITH

A quite rare, unusual, desirable tin elephant bank is our choice at this time as No. 206 in the numerical classification. This mechanical, the Safe Deposit Bank, along with the Royal Trick Elephant, are two of the real challenges in the elephant group of the mechanical banks. True, each of these tin banks would, generally speaking, have a greater appeal to a more advanced collector, however, this does not alleviate the fact that any collector, beginner or otherwise, would like to own either or both. And a challenge it is when we consider the bank under discussion and pictured herewith is the only known example to exist in a collection.

The bank shown is from the extensive Hegarty collection, and Mrs. Gertrude Hegarty was most thoughtful and helpful in permitting the writer to examine the Safe Deposit Bank

thoroughly and have it photographed and so on. The bank was originally found some years ago by the late Frank Ball, and unfortunately there is no record as to the circumstances surrounding his discovery of it. This could have been of some possible help since, to the best of the writer's knowledge, there is practically nothing known with respect to the background of the bank. For example, the name itself is quite unusual for a bank of this type. One would not normally associate an elephant bank of this nature with the name Safe Deposit. It just doesn't fit. Now this is not greatly important, but it does offer a curiously interesting point. We also do not know the time period of the bank in any factual area. We have no old catalog information, nor is there any information on the bank itself. In any case, in the writer's opinion, based on a thorough study of the bank, it is a rather early item and of American manufacture. Part of this judgment is based on the paper labels which are on each side of the base and have the name thereon. Also, this bank is put together in similar fashion to early tin toys of similar type that were made in the United States. So until such time that factual information may come to light, we will place the bank circa 1880's and of American manufacture.

The bank shown is in very nice original condition with no repairs. The original paint is exceptionally good, particularly for a tin bank of its type.

Colors are as follows: The figure of the elephant is an overall grey, and on his back he has a red blanket with gold edging. He has black ears with a white mark to the front of each ear. His tusks are white and he has white eyes with black pupils. A red mouth and black feet complete the coloring on the figure. The rectangular shape base has a slant roof-like top in red. The ends of the base are blue. On each side of the base there is a large dark blue paper label. Stencilled or printed on each is the name "Safe Deposit Bank" in decorative gold lettering. The name is legible, but somewhat worn—more so on the reverse side, not pictured.

To operate the bank a coin is placed in the rounded end of the trunk. On depressing the tail, the trunk recedes (moves back), dropping the coin in the provided slot in the top of the roof-like base on which the elephant stands. The action is quite unusual, as a matter of fact unique, with the trunk in a lowered position and swinging back to deposit the coin. This method of operation adds considerable interest to the bank.

In closing it bears mention that the Safe Deposit Bank belongs considerably further up in the numerical classification. Its assigned number in the classification at this point is not vitally important. The information concerning the bank, recognition, and so on, is of importance, and that is what we have done at this time.

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I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves and, if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome direction, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education.

—Thomas Jefferson

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—Abraham Lincoln

### MECHANICAL BANKS WANTED

PLEASE NOTE my mechanical bank display ad in this section, listing various wants. — F. H. Griffith, P.O. Box 10644, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15235 tfx

OLD mechanical and still banks, toys, describe, state price, condition. — Scofield's, Box 457, Ridgefield, Conn. au12049

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We thank Thee for this place in which we dwell; for the love that unites us; for the peace accorded us this day; for the hope with which we expect the morrow; for the health, the work, the food, and the bright skies that make our lives delightful; for our friends in all parts of the earth, and our friendly helpers in this foreign isle. Give us courage and gaiety and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends, so often to us our enemies. Bless us, if it may be, in all our innocent endeavors. If it may not, give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune, and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving one another.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

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| Andy Gump                            | Grasshopper   |
| Umpire standing on Baseball          | Turtle  |
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| Stork (J.M. Harper safe type)        | Prussian Helmet   |
| Carpenter (J. M. Harper safe type)   | The Egg Head  |
| General Lee (J. M. Harper safe type) | Barrel on wheels  |
| Camel with pack—standing             | English Bull Dog (on four legs)                           |
| Lamb on Base                         | Horse Head Bank (Left head and deposit coin inside mouth) |

Please—no reproductions, repaints, or broken banks.

Also want Roly Poly Brownie Tobacoco Tins in good condition. Especially want Santa Claus, Chinaman, Monk, Cowboy, etc. Also any with Dixie Queen emblem.

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Any Rare Mechanical Banks  
Particularly Those As Listed:

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Jonah & Whale (Jonah Emerges)   | Baby Elephant (Un-look at X o'clock)    |
| Clown                           | Bank Teller                             |
| Present Savings (Wood)          | Time Is Money                           |
| Snake & Frog In Pond (Tin)      | Clown On Bar                            |
| Old Woman In The Shoe           | Time Lock Savings                       |
| Magie (Tin)                     | Tommy                                   |
| Freedman's Bureau (Wood)        | Bowling Alley                           |
| Ding Dong Bell (Tin, Wind-Up)   | Musical Savings                         |
| Woodpecker (Tin, Music)         | Preacher In The Pulpit                  |
| John Bull's Money Box           | Indian Bust (Aluminum)                  |
| Bowling Man In Cupola           | Treasure Chest Music Bank (White Metal) |
| Seek Him Frisk (Dog chases cat) | Little Hi-Hat                           |

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| ● ELEPHANT (Tin)                         | ● RIVAL                             |
| ● BOWLING ALLEY BANK                     | ● SENTRY BANK (Tin)                 |
| ● FOOTBALL (Colored man kicks ball)      | ● GUESSING BANK (Woman's Figure)    |
| ● SHILEY                                 | ● CLOWN & DOG (Tin)                 |
| ● BOTTLING UP CERVERA                    | ● PERFECTION REGISTERING BANK       |
| ● PRESTO (Penny changes to quarter)      | ● DARKY FISHERMAN                   |
| ● BALL TOSSEY (Tin, wind-up)             | ● FROG ON ARCH-ED TRACK (Tin)       |
| ● SHOOT TIT TAT BANK                     | ● TIME LOCK SAVINGS                 |
| ● TOMMY BANK (Frodo, Soldier shoots Gun) | ● QUEEN VIC-TORIA JUBILEE BANK 1887 |
| ● BULL & BEAR BANK                       | ● SAFE DEPOSIT BANK (tin elephant)  |
| ● COASTING BANK                          | ● WINNER SAVINGS (Tin)              |
| ● MUSICAL SAVING BANK (You pay - I play) |                                     |
| ● PREACHER IN THE PULPIT                 |                                     |

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Also want Cast Iron horsedrawn carriages, animated bell ring pull toys, old toy automobiles, old catalogs showing banks & toy pistols.

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The Following Mechanical Banks:

- |                                |                              |
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| Baby Elephant                  | New Bank                     |
| X O'Clock                      | North Pole                   |
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| Bow-ery                        | Preacher in Pulpit           |
| Bowling Man in Cupola          | Rival                        |
| Bowling Alley                  | Safe Deposit (tin elephant)  |
| Bureau (wood Serrell Pat.)     | Seek Him Frisk               |
| Called Out                     | Shoot that Hat               |
| Clown on Bar (tin)             | Target (cannon)              |
| Coin Registering (Dome Bldg.)  | Trolley Motor Bank           |
| Ding Dong Bell (tin)           | Turtle                       |
| 8c Adding Bank                 | Whale (tin)                  |
| Football (Darky & Watermelon)  | British Lion (tin)           |
| Freedman's Bureau              | Indian Chief Bust (aluminum) |
| Frog on Arch-Ed Track          | Little Hi-Hat                |
| Fun Producing (tin scale)      | Magi (tin)                   |
| Harlequin                      | Queen Victoria Bust          |
| Monkey (drops coin in stomach) | Royal Trick                  |
|                                | Elephant (tin)               |
|                                | Snake & Frog in Pond         |
|                                | Try Your Weight Scale (tin)  |

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WANTED TO BUY: U.S. coins, gold and obsolete currency. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1893, Charlestown, W. Va. my122511

WANTED: Old medals, celluloid badges, buttons, penny banks. — Earl Romey, Box 201, Bluffton, Ind. le12678

WANTED COINS: Foreign or U.S. silver, gold, others, collections, estates, any amount. Highest prices—example, silver dollars XF-42: trade dollars \$2. ANA member. Ship for fast check. — Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis, Mo. 63132 ap120422

WANTED SILVER COINS: Dated 1944 or before, any condition, dimes, quarters, halves and dollars. Paying 12% over face. Any amount. Ship to Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis Mo. 63132. ap126581

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CASH for old elongated (rolled out) coins from fairs, expositions, places and events by collector. — Bob Callender, 155 W. Market, Napanee, Ind. 46550 my6637

BUYING: U.S. Foreign coin collections, accumulations, everything. Ship for my offer. — Scott, Box 1636, Point Pleasant Beach, N.J. 08742 jly126121

BUYING all foreign coins before 1900 nice condition. Free appraisal. Paying top prices. — Glenn Godwin, Box 348, Binghamton, N.Y. 13902 ap3023

History relates that in early times, money, as we know it, was nonexistent. When something was desired, acquisition was through barter and trade.

A man's wealth was figured in commodities—land, cattle, sheep, and other items of desirability. Gold and silver had a recognized high value but only was used for large transactions. Transfers were made in gold and silver bars.

Early Greek cities, and Lydia, were the first to recognize the need of smaller pieces of metal that could be used for trade.

The advantage of this was recognized by Darius the Great, King of the great Persian Empire. The coinage system he adopted in the fifth

(Continued on page 160)

### COINS FOR SALE

FOREIGN COIN grand special 1,000 assorted uncirculated \$15.00 ppd. Equally divided among 10 countries. — Mark Coins, Cempello, Mass. 02403 au 126121

EXOTIC foreign banknotes! Biafra pound — 50c, 4 Brazil — \$1.00, 8 Bulgaria — \$1.50, 10 China — \$1.00, 25 Foreign — \$2.00, German East Africa — 75c, 7 Yugoslavia — \$1.00. All 7 lots — \$7. Edmund Molzen, Box 275, Alameda, California 94501. f3045

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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

Enclosed are tracings of coins to get their value. Thank you.

—W.L.P., Illinois

## Answer:

Your Milan, Italy, coin is a Scudo of Maria Theresa listed as Davenport 1386. Very Fine retail value is between \$20 and \$30.

Papa States, Scudo, Davenport #191 description on reverse, "Presentation in the temple," Very Fine (or better), should retail for around \$100 or more.

Nuremberg Thaler, Davenport 5639, Extremely Fine, should retail for around \$60 to \$75.

Peru 8 Reals Cusco mint, Craig 132A, Very Good to Good, \$10.00.

Chosroes III, Sassania, (Persia), value -10 to \$15.

British Model silver center penny, \$2.50.

1801 British token Farthing, \$2.50. Isle of Man token, \$4.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I'm eleven years old. I have a 1829 half dollar. On the edge is the lettering "fifty cents or half dollar." The "fifty cents or....." is double-struck in the following manner: FFIIFFTTYY CCEENNTTSS OORE. Does this bring any extra premium value?

I enjoy reading your "Coin Quiz" in HOBBIES Magazine.

—R.M., California

## Answer:

Welcome to the society of coin collectors Mr. Eleven Year Old! If you continue to collect coins all of your life you will enjoy a wonderful hobby that can be very profitable too!

Your 1829 fifty-cent piece certainly does have a premium value. Condition however determines what it is worth. If it is "Good"; \$9; Very Fine, \$12; and brilliant, uncirculated, \$45.00.

Compare your coin with the descriptions in the Guide book as to conditions. —C. F., Florida

## Question:

Reading your column in HOBBIES Magazine, I wondered if you could furnish me with any information about Leper Colonies producing and circulating their own coins or tokens, or where I may obtain them.

The information I seek is what years minted and what denominations of each year; also where they may be obtained, if possible.

Thanking you for any help you may be able to give, I remain,

—D.C.B., California

## Answer:

I personally have not researched the Leper colonies coins as to dates, issues, etc. We have, however, offered many in past auction sales, mostly from the Philippines. I believe you will be able to get the information you wish from Dr. Jesus LeDeJesus, Prudential Bank & Trust Co., Manila, Philippines. —C.J., Florida

## Question:

I would greatly appreciate your opinions and advice in estimating an approximate value of a Medal that recently became mine through an estate sale. I am an art glass collector and have a very limited knowledge of coins, medals, etc.

This is the Waterloo Medal. Along with the Medal came a charming hard-bound book entitled "The Waterloo Medal" by Isaac Myer, B.L., dated 1885. This book is one of a hundred copies printed and distributed to members of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia in that year.

Isaac Myer was a member of the said Society and the Historical Society in Pa. The book is rich in information about the history of the Medal, the activities involved in its making, and interesting information on Benedetto Pistrucci.

I wonder if you could assist me in determining if the Medal I have is one from the original issues or castings or if it is a later issue or copy. Also, its value.

The Medal came from a collection of Dr. G. Rosenkranz of Los Angeles, Calif. He died some 15 years ago at age 75. He began collecting early in life and traveled extensively.

The coin is a half short of 5% in diameter. Its weight is 1 lb. 9 oz. It is bronze with a rich patina. There is no date or lettering anywhere except Pistrucci's name appearing very tiny on one side (obverse) near the bottom.

Along the edge, one can detect a seam where the two sides of the Medal are joined. The detailing is splendid. Unfortunately, it has a small flat area on the edge where it looks as though it might have been dropped.

I am interested in selling this. In the August issue of HOBBIES, you gave N.E.S., of Missouri, three steps to follow: History, Authentication, and locating of an auction house. Could you advise a place near the Los Angeles area for my needs? Also, could you give me your personal opinion as to the honest value.

—T.P.N., California

## Answer:

Sight unseen, makes it difficult to give you an authentic answer as to its genuineness. I would venture to say that insofar as it came with the book it possibly could be original. The fact that there is a seam around the edge would indicate, however, that it is an electrolyte. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

I got your name and address from the local newspaper, The Elkhart Truth, in answer to an inquiry I made concerning some stamps I recently purchased from the Post Office in downtown Elkhart, Ind.

It wasn't too long after I started using some of the stamps from the roll that I had noticed a printing defect on all of them; some of the blue ink has run into the red stripes and some of the red ink has run into the blue star-field.

Since I've read that printing defects make stamps valuable, I was wondering whether this roll — or rather what's left of it — is worth anything, and if so, how much. You may keep the enclosed sample for your trouble. (I also have a few stamps where the blue has run into most of the bottom stripe on the flag).

And if you'll notice the stamp on the envelope this letter came in, you'll notice a slight defect, similar to the one on the enclosed 6-cent stamp, although not as great. I have practically the whole roll of those.

J.E., Indiana

## Answer:

Your letter came to me and is of interest. While I do not at present usually answer inquiries on Stamps, having given up activity in stamps around seven years ago. I do answer all inquiries on rare coins.

I do, however, have sufficient knowledge on Philately to voice an opinion on your stamp. Rarity is what will determine value and of course the rarity of stamps will be determined by how many are available with the error. This can only be determined after a period of time to see how many turn up, for there would be no "count" as to numbers struck with the error.

Frankly, this is the first time I even thought of looking for such an error although I have handled hundreds of the 6-cent flag stamps. I would, therefore, suggest that you hold all the balance you have and see if many turn up in the country.

By coincidence, I have had sent to me a copy of the "Truth Line" in the Elkhart Truth newspaper with your inquiry. This has induced another individual in Elkhart to write me about an 8-cent stamp she had which has similar color errors. This leads me to believe that if the same error can occur on two different denominations it might be quite common. —C.F., Florida

(Continued on page 138)

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(See page 106)

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April, 1972

Vol. 77, No. 2

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# Guessing Bank

## (Womans Figure)

By F. H. GRIFFITH



Following through with last month's article on the Safe Deposit Bank, we are once again expressing our appreciation to Mrs. Gertrude Hegarty for the courtesies extended to the writer enabling him to pass along information on another very unusual mechanical bank from her excellent collection. The bank is the Guessing Bank (Womans Figure) and, of necessity, at this point No. 207 in the numerical classification. This bank shares the same name with, and could be considered a companion to, the

more familiar Guessing Bank (HOBBIES, March 1962). As we shall see, beyond sharing the same name, they have very definite similarities, and in the writer's opinion were manufactured in or near the same time.

From an appearance standpoint certain aspects of the woman's figure would seem a little questionable with respect to its being a child's toy savings device. However, we must remember that questionable liberties, in the area of being a child's toy, exist with a number of the mechanicals. As example, there are two where a figure is thumbing its nose (Freedman's and Pelican), a rat being served to a Chinaman on a tray (China In Boat), the definite Labor, Capitalist, Banker theme of the Bread Winners Bank, and others of varying and similar nature, all made and sold as a toy mechanical bank. We must also remember that certain time periods have a definite relationship to the subject matter of certain mechanical banks, particularly those just mentioned and possibly to the one under present discussion.

The bank shown is in extra fine all original condition. It was added to the Hegarty collection through the help of the late Frank Ball and, unfortunately, to the best of the writer's knowledge, it is not definitely known just where Mr. Ball obtained the bank. This information may well have been of some help since we know little or nothing about the background of this bank. There are no markings or dates on the bank itself and we have no more to go on than its relationship to the other Guessing Bank. The writer knows of no old catalogs, patent papers, or anything else that relate to the bank. As with other mechanicals of unknown background, we are always hopeful that future or happenstance will shed some light on the matter.

The Guessing Bank pictured, as is the case with its companion named piece, is a very well made, finely detailed bank. Other than the cast iron square box-like coin container base, the entire upper part of the bank is cast in some type of white metal. This

(Continued on next page)

## Old Mechanical Banks

Conducted by

By F. H. GRIFFITH

has sort of a gold tinge bronze finish thereon. The square cast iron base is black enamel. The numbers around the dial are white and the pointer is gold. Not too colorful a bank, but certainly a very attractive item.

To operate, a coin is dropped in the provided slot in the rounded top of the fluted column by the girl's head. This causes the pointer to spin, and that's it. Ostensibly if you previously guessed the proper number at which the pointer stops, you were paid five times the amount of your deposited coin. This is borne out by the wording that appears just under the dial, 'Pays Five For One' and further wording just under this, 'If You Call The Number.' The name 'Guessing Bank' is on the fluted column above the dial. The dial is surrounded by a wreath which affords a nice decorative effect. The somewhat enticing figure of the girl is a rather well-endowed type, typical of the time, with the Lillian Russell hour-glass touch.

The base section is rather unusual with its provided method for removal of coins. It is made like a box with no top and is held in place by a bar going through the front and on through the back. A lock holds this bar in place in the back of the bank. Removing the lock with a key allows the bar to be pulled through from the front and the base container separates from the body of the bank. This is unique as a coin receptacle on a mechanical bank.

In closing it bears mention as to the specific similarities between the two Guessing Banks. Each has the same operation with similar mechanism inside. Each is made the same way and of the same metals. They share the same type finish and the same wording appears on each. Two things they do not share is rarity and a patent date. To the best of the writer's knowledge, the Guessing Bank (Womans Figure) as pictured here is the only one known to exist in a collection. The other Guessing Bank, as explained in HOBBIES, March, 1962 article, has a patent date thereon, May 22, 1877.



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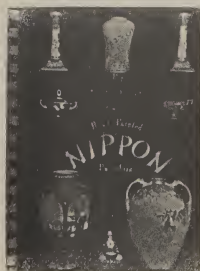
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**WANTED COINS:** Foreign or U.S. silver, gold, others, collections, astates, any amount. Highest prices—example, silver dollars XF-2; trade dollars \$12. ANA member. Ship for test check. — Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis, Mo. 63132   
sp120422

**WANTED SILVER COINS:** Dated 1944 or before, any condition, dimes, quarters, halves and dollars. Paying 12% over face. Any amount. Ship to Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis Mo. 63132.   
sp126591

**PAYING TOP prices** for gold coins, old currency, Confederate, fractional, bank notes. Large quantity bank reference. — Claude Wadsworth, 5521 1st Ave., So., Birmingham, Ala. 35212   
sp126351

**WANTED, United States Gold:** paying \$20 each for \$1; \$2.50, \$5; \$25 each for \$10; \$50 each for \$20. Foreign and damaged gold also wanted. Any amount. — Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis, Mo. 63132   
sp126712

**CASH for old elongated (rolled out) coins** from fairs, expositions, places and events by collector. — Bob Callender, 155 W. Market, Nappanee, Ind. 46550   
my637

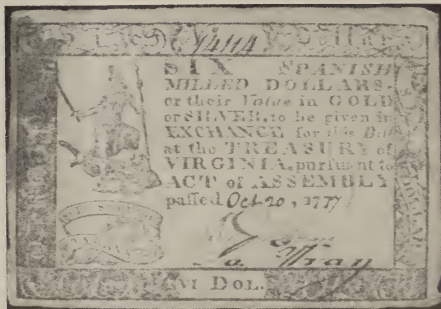
**BUYING:** U.S. Foreign coin collections, accutions, everything. Ship for my offer. — Scott, Box 1636, Point Pleasant Beach, N.J. 08742   
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**BUYING** all foreign coins before 1900 nice condition. Free appraisal. Paying top prices. — Glenn Godwin, Box 368, Binghamton, N.Y. 13902   
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**WANTED TO BUY** any U.S. currency, early Colonial, Continental, Confederate, broken bank notes, obsolete, fractional, encased postage stamps, large and small size currency, etc. Write and describe what you have to sell. — Superior Currency, Box 302, Superior, Wis. 54880   
mh126942

## "NOT WORTH A CONTINENTAL"

By CHARLES FRENCH



Prior to the American Revolution coins were very scarce in the Colonies. It therefore is not surprising that the Colonists turned to paper money to alleviate this money shortage.

At first, England disapproved the issue of paper money as she also did of coins. The pressure caused constant friction between local governments and the King.

Finally, England permitted the issue of paper money to finance military activity, for her Colonies constantly were harassed by the French, Spanish, and Indians. England hoped to repay this indebtedness out of Colonial taxes rather than have to bear the brunt of it out of the King's coffers. The debt grew to such an extent, however, as to start inflationary depreciation.

The Colony of Massachusetts, in 1690, was the first to issue money. It was followed by South Carolina in 1703. New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, and Connecticut, in 1709; Rhode Island in 1710, and North Carolina, in 1712. By the time of the Revolution, all the Colonies had resorted to the use of paper money.

There were many series, sometimes as many as three or four per year, from each Colony, crudely printed on a thick, rough-surfaced, coarse paper, which could not stand much use. This is evident by the poor condition in which so many surviving specimens are found. The issues or notes were,

(Continued on page 181)

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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

I hope you can help me solve a coin problem. I have several coins in pencil rubbings enclosed. Please tell me the origin of each, and the value in relationship to the Canadian dollar.

—B.Z., Saskatchewan, Canada

## Answer:

Your first coin is an Austrian 1915 Ducat. These the being restruck and are worth around \$7.50.

Next is Republic of Yugoslavia 50 Dinara, Yeoman #31, catalogs at 75 cents.

Your small gold piece is not very clear but seems to be a 2 Tical coin of Siam, ruler is Chulalongkorn, 1868-1910. If this is the coin it catalogs at \$125.

The last coin is a Russian 10 Rubles, Czar Nicholas II, valued at around \$20.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I am a regular subscriber to "HOBBIES" Magazine, and am enclosing some coin tracings. Hope you can identify same, also give the approximate value in A1 condition.

—P.A.W., New York

## Answer:

What you have is a William Barber Pattern dollar, known as Judd 1617 or Judd 1618. The 1618 design is of silver and is valued at \$85 if in choice condition. The Judd 1617 is known as a "Metric" dollar, made of an alloy of gold and silver. This can only be identified from the 1618 by weight, the 1617 weighing 25 grams or 385.8 grains. If it turns out to be this one, it is very rare.

There are also patterns of the same design made in copper, aluminum, and lead.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

A coin collecting friend gave me your address as I need some information on an old coin I found.

Enclosed is a pencil rubbing of the coin. I would like approximate value as the coin is for sale if it has a value.

—C.R.W., Indiana

## Answer:

There is evidence that your coin was struck some time ago, due to the crudeness of coinage, there is no known "coin" of this design. The WM indicates that it could be a token of private issue. That's about all I can tell you about it.

Further checking should be done, the piece should be sent to some Colonial expert for inspection and verification.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Please let me know if I can get a book on English and Irish coins.

—J.D., Pennsylvania

## Answer:

There are several books on coins of England and Ireland.

Standard Catalog of British Coins, Seaby; address Seaby Numismatic Publications, London W1, England.

A Guide book of English coins, by Bressett, Whitman Publishing Co., Racine, Wis., or at your local book store.

Coins of the British World, Freidberg. Inquire at your local book store or coin shop.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I have a \$5 bill and I am wondering if it would be of any value. It is the normal size. On the back is has the normal size of the edge. But on the front, at the top, it does not have the normal width of the edge. It is cut nearly on the black line.

I hope you can understand my description of the bill, if not please advise. Thank you.

—Miss M.E., Indiana

## Answer:

From your description I would say that the obverse of the note is off center to the extent that there is no border at the top. Off center notes are of premium value. Yours is off a very little bit and would be worth little or no premium.

However if it had been so far off as to show part of the next bill at the bottom, it would have been a very desirable "Mint Error." Might I also add that the condition of the bill, not mentioned, determines value greatly.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I again seek information on a coin. This time the coin is a silver Rupee of William IV, and presumably minted for circulation in India. The reverse bears the words, East India Company, and the date 1835.

Thank you in advance for any information you may have on this coin. Please see rubbings.

—J.S.A., Jr., Georgia

## Answer:

You have identified the coin correctly. One Rupee of King William IV of England. The cataloged value of this coin is \$4.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Will you please identify the pencil rubbings of coins I've had for some time?

The first coin is a half dollar from Newfoundland and is dated 1904. Can you please tell me the value of this coin?

The second coin is a French coin dated 1923. What is the value of this coin?

Also, can you tell me the metal contents of the 1965 Churchill crown? Thank you.

—G.R., California

## Answer:

Your 1904 Newfoundland half dollar in the condition illustrated catalogs for \$3 and retails for around \$1.50.

The second, a French Coin, is emergency money issued after World War I. Quite common, it retails for 5 cents.

The Churchill Crown is not silver. It is made of a copper nickel alloy.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I have a copper medal which I tried to trace on paper but couldn't do a very good job. It looks old and has the date 1776 on it. Could it have been put out for the Centennial in Philadelphia in 1876?

Would appreciate if you could tell me anything about it. Have taken HOBBIES for over 40 years and love it.

—Mrs. R.S., Wisconsin

## Answer:

The medals of the 1876 Centennial were all of a very large size. Your bronze and possibly gilt token is of recent make. Value about 25 cents.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I recently bought a copper medal (at a "flea market") which I will describe to you. It is a copper cent; Indian Head on one side and on reverse side are the wreaths with this; "Souvenir Penny of Harrisburg." It measures 2 7/8 inches in diameter and is 3/16 inches thick rim edge. Can you tell me when and where they were made? It is in fine shape. Also would like to know what it would be worth as I'm anxious to know if I paid too much, ha! I got it for my grandson as he has quite a collection of pennies.

I am always interested in your articles which appear in the "HOBBIES" which I have taken for years. Thank you for any information.

—N.S.H., Ohio

## Answer:

I regret to say I cannot tell what you have from your description. If you will be kind enough to send me a pencil rubbing of the items I shall do my best.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Would you please identify and evaluate the Indian Head Penny I have "rubbed in." It is identical in every detail, color, weight, etc., as any Indian penny. At first glance one would swear it to be just a run-of-the-mill Indian cent. However, upon close examination, one finds "Alden & Frink"—Indian with headdress, date 1863 on obverse. On reverse "Merchants," "40 Mohawk St., Cohoes, N.Y." It is definitely a penny. Is it worth anything to a coin collector?

Mrs. W., New York

## Answer:

Your coin is one of many varieties of Civil War Merchants tokens. This one was originally used in your area. Its current retail value is from \$1 to \$1.25.

—C.F., Florida

# SUPERB HISTORICAL CURRENCY

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1862 \$1 Legal Our First \$1 Bill Rare Low Serial No. under 200	\$139.75	1899 \$2 Silver Last Large \$2 S.C. # \$54.75, Superb	\$ 59.75
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# Stump Speaker Bank

By F. H. GRIFFITH

The bank we have chosen as No. 208 in the numerical classification is quite timely and appropriate in this important Election Year of 1972. The Stump Speaker is a mechanical that would seem to fit the political situation like a glove. It is a quite attractive bank in any case, although its name does have a definitive area of meaning.

In the 1800's speakers, usually political, appearing before backwood audiences often spoke while standing on a tree stump. Eventually speakers of this type were referred to as "stump speakers." Then along the same political line came the terminology "stump orator" and "stump campaign." As example, the debates between Lincoln and Douglas in 1858, when competing for the Senate, were referred to as a "stump campaign." Eventually the term "stump speaker" broadened in its usage to include all those who made political speeches through the countryside, but not necessarily on tree stumps. "Stump" then referred to the platform on which the speaker stood. And in electioneering a politician "stumps" the State.

The Stump Speaker Bank was patented November 16, 1886 by Charles G. Shepard and Peter Adams of Buffalo, N.Y. Adams, was the assignor to Walter J. Shepard of the same city. The patent papers covering the bank are quite detailed with three pages of drawings. These drawings first show the bank complete, then an overall cut-through backview, cut-through side-view, and a page of various operating parts. The papers are usually, precise and well cover the bank. It was made by the Shepard Hardware Company of Buffalo. As compared to the patent papers, Shepard made several changes when they produced the bank. The face of the figure was changed to that of a Negro, an umbrella lying on the platform was eliminated, and a perky top hat was added.

The original bank shown is in the extensive Leon Perelman collection. Paint condition is very good and colors are as follows. The top hat is grey with a black band, his face and hands are dark brown, hair and eyebrows are black. His white eyes have



tan iris and black pupils. He has white teeth with red spacing between, and his lips are red. He wears a snap-py green suit with yellow vest, red coat collar, white shirt, and black tie. The jacket edges, pockets, and cuffs are piped in red. His shoes are black. The satchel is light and dark tan with black frame and handle. Top of the platform represents wood boards and is grey with some color definition between the boards. Front, back and side plates of the base are red. The name "Stump Speaker" on the front plate along with the decoration is gold. The name "Bank" on each side plate is also gold. The four corner

columns are black, as is the under- edging of the platform and the base plate edging. Yellow striping then frames each base plate. A blue-grey lever completes the coloring of the bank. Quite colorful, and a very attractive toy savings device.

To operate, a coin is placed in his outstretched right hand. On pressing the lever his mouth closes, he lowers his right hand and forearm and the satchel opens. The coin drops from his hand into the open satchel. On releasing the lever, the satchel closes and the coin drops into the base container. His right arm returns to the

(Continued on page 51)

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(Woman's Figure)
- CLOWN & DOG  
(Tin)
- PERFECTION  
(REGISTERING  
BANK)
- DARTY  
FISHERMAN
- FROG ON ARCH-  
ED TRACK (Tin)
- TIME LOCK  
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- SAFE DEPOSIT  
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tfc

(Continued from page 49)

position as shown in the picture. The  
 balanced jaw swings back and forth  
 a number of times, giving the effect  
 of speaking. Good action and com-  
 pletely in keeping with the name of  
 the bank.

The Stump Speaker is sort of a  
 companion bank to Uncle Sam (HOB-  
 BIES, July, 1965), and they are di-  
 rectly tied together by the patents in-  
 volved. As a matter of fact, the base  
 plate of the Stump Speaker has the  
 date June 8, 1886, inscribed along one  
 end. Actually this is the design patent  
 date of the Uncle Sam Bank. This  
 came to be a fashion. Both patents,  
 the regular on the Stump Speaker  
 and the design on Uncle Sam, were  
 applied for on the same date, May 1,  
 1886. The design patent was issued  
 first, June 8th, and since both banks  
 have the same operation and working  
 parts, this date was used on each.  
 Under other circumstances, the date  
 of November 16th, issue date of the  
 regular patent, could have been em-  
 ployed since the operations covered by  
 this patent also apply to both banks.  
 Shepard simply decided to use the  
 earlier issue date since it was ex-  
 pedient for them to do so.

# Numismatics

Conducted by CHARLES F. FRENCH

## WANTED

**WANTED TO BUY:** Old tokens, medals, badges, buttons. — Earl Romey, Box 201, Bluffton, S.C. tel2696

**WANTED TO BUY:** U.S. coins, gold and obsolete currency. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1893, Charleston, W. Va. mh12551

**WANTED TO BUY:** Accumulations and collections of foreign coins. Ship with asking price or write for my generous offer. Member leading numismatic organizations. — Jeffery Zarit, Box 59041, Chicago, Ill. 60659 jly3084

**WANTED SILVER COINS:** Dated 1964 or before, any condition, dimes, quarters, halves and dollars. Paying 12% over face. Any amount. Ship to Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis Mo. 63132. ap126581

**PAYING TOP prices** for gold coins, old currency, Confederate, fractional, bank notes. Large quantity bank reference. — Claude Wadsworth, 5521 1st Ave., So., Birmingham, Ala. 35212 ap126351

**WANTED, United States Gold:** paying \$20 each for \$1; \$25.00, \$5; \$25 each for \$10; \$50 each for \$20. Foreign and damaged gold also wanted. Any amount. — Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis Mo. 63132 ap126712

**CASH** for old elongated (rolled out) coins from fairs, exhibitions, places and events by collector. — Bob Callender, 155 W. Market, Napenee, Ind. 46550 my6637

**BUYING:** U.S. Foreign coin collections, accumulations, everything. Ship for my offer. — Scott, Box 1636, Point Pleasant Beach, N.J. 08742 jly126121

**BUYING** all foreign coins before 1900 nice condition. Free appraisal. Paying top prices. — Glenn Godwin, Box 368, Binghampton, N.Y. 13902 ap3023

**WANTED TO BUY** any U.S. currency, early Colonial, Continental, Confederate, broken bank notes, obsolete, fractional, encased postage stamps, large and small size currency, etc. Write and describe what you have to sell. — Superior Currency, Box 302, Superior, Wis. 54680 mh126942

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# Reminiscences of a Coin Dealer

By CHARLES F. FRENCH

Having been in the coin business for such a long time, since 1932, I recall a great many interesting occurrences. In the late 1930s there was a wholesale dealer many old timers will remember, Joe Barnett. He lived in Brooklyn in a private home on Ocean Ave., traveled daily throughout the Metropolitan District peddling coins. Every so often I'd come down from Troy, N.Y. and call on him. He had a small office on the second floor and his clothes closet was a solid wall, from floor to ceiling of boxes of coins. What you wanted, he had! I used to buy early proofs at 15% below catalog (the catalog in those days being Wayne Raymonds). I remember purchasing a *Roll of 1879 Brilliant Proof* dimes, fifty of them for \$50. These catalog today, retail, at \$92.50 *Per Coin*!

Around that same time, a book dealer in Albany, John Scopes, called me up and said he had some gold to sell for an old Albany Family. It turned out, a relative in the family had been in Congress at the end of the 19th century. The set turned out to be a *Proof Set* of all the gold of the year 1873 in gem condition. Catalog value today? \$10,000.

One day I received a letter from a bank in Pennsylvania, they had 147 double eagles to sell. Would I be interested in buying? In those days the legality of purchasing such a quantity was questionable due to the Gold hoarding act. I replied, requesting a list of dates and mint marks on the coins. The list showed that all were different dates and mint marks and ranged from 1850 through 1894. I then advised them that in my opinion that was a collection and not a hoard and we were entitled to buy. They wrote the treasury department for approval to sell, received it and we bought the 147 pieces.

An interesting story was then re-

lated to us. Apparently, an eccentric in the late 1890s buried these in the cellar of his home. After years had passed, the house was sold by the heirs and the new owners decided to cement the cellar floor. The workmen when digging heard a chink and uncovered the gold cache. The workmen claimed them as finders, as did both the home owner and heirs. The court decided for the heirs. There were originally 150 coins, three however had vanished.

There was another dealer in New York, he did a lot of mail order business, had an impressive address — Wall St.—It sounded important but when you called on him, you found a step-down store, disorganized, down near the wharfs. He used to come to Troy on a selling trip, had a brown paper sack loaded with gold, mostly California pieces. Moffat & Co., and other Rare California gold coins. U.S. Assay \$50 slugs were available at \$125 (now worth over \$2000). In his store, he had drawers full of foreign coins, minor and junk kind, thousands. Said he got them from Subway and other vending machine owners. He bought them by the pound, sold them by the piece to customers that used them over again in the same machines! What a round-robin!

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## COIN QUIZ

### Question:

This piece of paper was found in an old mining district in Southern Oregon.

Please appraise and send back. Thank you. —W.D.S., Oregon

### Answer:

The enclosed note is valueless. It is a copy or imitation of a piece of Colonial paper money. Originals were on a much different paper, and hand signed. —C.F., Florida

(Continued on page 133)

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## myc



# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

Could you give me any information on this coin? It has the same pattern as the regular issue 2 cent pieces dated 1864-1873. The coin I have is dated 1863. Thank you.

—Mrs. A.M., Kentucky

## Answer:

Regular issue of the 2-cent pieces is 1864 through 1873, as you state. Yours could be either one or two things. Either the date on yours has been altered, or it is what is known as a Pattern coin. You see trial or experimental 2-cent pieces were struck in limited numbers in 1863 for this purpose and are quite scarce. If yours is the latter, it is of some value, depending upon condition.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I am enclosing pencil rubbings of four coins, please help me in locating the countries, and the values of these at the present time. They are:

1. Date 1939, bronze, Canada.
2. Date, 1907, copper. Great Britain.
3. Date unknown, aluminum. Country: China, Japan, Hong Kong.
4. Date unknown, brass: Country: China, Japan.

—B.Z., Saskatchewan, Canada

## Answer:

Your bronze medal retails for around \$1.25; 2. Great Britain Cents, 5 cents; 3. China, 5 cents; 4. One Cash, China, 5 cents. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed are two pencil rubbings of a coin. Can you please identify it? Has it any value? Thank you.

—H.L.M., South Carolina

## Answer:

The coin you have is a silver "gulden Klippe" of the City of Ulm, Germany. These are "emergency" or "War" issues. Its value is around \$10.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed are four pencil rubbings of two very old coins my uncle gave me. The larger one is dated 1826, the smaller one 1866. On the front of the larger one, the words around the man's face are: "GEORGIDS IV DEI GRATIA." On the other side around the figure, I can't make out all of it, but here's some: "BRIT... NIA..."

The other coin, on the "date side," says: "HALF PENNY" around the figure. On the other side it says: "VICTORIA D:C BRITT: REG: F:D:"

Please tell me their denominations, origin & approximately value, if possible. Thank you very much.

—B.R., California

## Answer:

The 1826 coin is an English Penny

of Geo. IV, badly worn and of little value in this condition: The other is a Victoria Half-Penny, as you say dated 1856, value is about 25 cents.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enjoy your Coin Quiz so much and hope you can enlighten me on the two rubbings enclosed. I can't seem to find pictures or information on either one, even in the Library.

The Diamond Jubilee coin seems to be dark copper, and the S.T. SUIT coin is brass and has a hole in it. It may be the store card listed in a token book I saw but do not know if the hole was original to attach it to a bottle of bourbon or was drilled to use as a pendant.

Would appreciate any information or the book titles in which I can look them up. Thank you.

—N.N.K., Rhode Island

## Answer:

The first item is an English Medal commemorating Victoria's reign. Its value is most likely around \$1 in copper.

The other is a merchant's token of some sort of which there are many thousands. I do not think the hole was original but put there by some one mutilating it. Its position is not one that indicates its original design. These are of questionable value.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed is pencil rubbing of a coin I found recently. The color is gold. It sounds like a quarter when dropped. Can you tell me anything about it, its country, what it says, its value, metal, etc.? Thank you.

—E.E.F., California

## Answer:

The pencil rubbing you sent is not clear enough for me to tell the reverse design so I cannot be sure if your coin is gold or not. You see there was only one gold coin struck with a head on the obverse, and the design on the reverse of yours does not seem to coincide. If it was gold it would be worth around \$30 to \$40, otherwise, only around a Dollar or two.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Would you please tell me the value of two pieces of paper money I have. One is a 25-cent paper money, size 2" x 3½". Series of 1874, the picture of Robt. J. Walker, Sec. Treas., 1845. The other is a \$45 piece of paper money, size 3"x3½". The signature Geo. Bored, is in right hand corner, and Thos. Edison in left hand corner. It has a number of 11585. Also printed is, "The bearer is entitled to receive Forty-Five Spanish Miller Dollars, or an equal sum in gold or silver, according to a Resolution of Congress of the 14th January, 1779."

—R.B.H., Pennsylvania

## Answer:

The first note is a piece of post Civil War Fractional currency. In fine condition it is worth around 50 cents to \$1.

The other is a piece of Continental currency of the Revolution, valued at from \$2.50 to \$5.

Valuations are determined by the notes condition. We have given values for fine or better notes, no tears, no mutilations, and very little wear.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

From HOBBIES Magazine I note you quote on old currency. I have one \$5 certificate of the Somerset Worcester Savings Bank, Maryland, and one \$3 certificate. Please advise if they have any value. They both bear date of Nov. 7, 1862.

—E.H., New York

## Answer:

The obsolete notes you have, in fine condition, retail for around \$2.50 each.

—C.F. Florida

## Question:

Enclosed is an article on "The Shkel" showing pictures of a coin. I have such a coin in my collection. It is a crude piece. Silver? Profile of a man with wreath around head on one side, and the walking eagle with writing on reverse side.

The coin is in very good condition re: details, but has blackened somewhat. Do you think this is really an old coin? What is its approximate value?

Also kindly appraise a 1795 silver dollar, 13 stars, in very fine condition.

Please return the Shkel article with your reply. Thank you.

—R.O.E., Connecticut

## Answer:

The shkel you have is worth approximately between \$25 and \$35, depending upon exact condition.

As to your 1795 dollar: There were none coined that year with 13 stars. All have 15 stars. In very fine condition the commonest variety would retail for around \$300.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed is a list of coins (3) and notes which I have and am wondering how much they are worth for resale. So far as I can determine the only note which has been folded is the little (2½" x 1½") fractional 5-cent note. The others have no creases so far as I can determine.

The signatures are most interesting and pictures of men are clear and also interesting, I am sure, to anyone with knowledge of Confederate currency I have:

3 Columbian 50-cent pieces. All 1893, 2 XF, 1 F.

1 5-cent fractional currency "Act approved March 3, 1863." Receivable for all United States Stamps.

Confederate Money: (paper notes): Richmond Feb. 17, 1864, \$100.

(small tear)  
Richmond Feb. 17, 1864, \$50.  
Richmond Feb. 17, 1864, \$20.  
Richmond Feb. 17, 1864, \$10.  
Richmond Feb. 17, 1864, \$5.  
Richmond Feb. 17, 1864, 50c.  
Richmond Feb. 17, 1864, \$1.  
Richmond Feb. 17, 1864, \$2.

All in excellent condition except for a small tear in the \$100 bill as noted above. Several are "hand numbered" and signed.

—Mrs. H.T.S., South Dakota

## Answer:

For the most part the Confederate notes of the year 1864 are quite common and would be worth around 54 cents to \$1 per note. The Fractional currency note, folded without any tears. The Columbian Half Dollars circulated, about \$1.50 each.

—C.F., Florida

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# CLEVER DICK BANK (TIN)

By F. H. GRIFFITH

It's been a little while since we have had the pleasure of announcing the discovery of a new find in a mechanical bank. Well it has happened again, and we have come up with a very attractive mechanical previously not known to exist, for description and discussion. This is the Clever Dick Bank, a German tin mechanical made apparently for the English market only, and of necessity at this point, No. 209 in the numerical classification. It is a well designed, cleverly conceived toy savings device with very good mechanical action. It well fits into either of two groups, one having dogs as the subject matter and the other comprising clown representations with their circus background overtones.

Like the Clown And Dog (HOBBIES, March, 1969), the Clever Dick Bank has certain characteristics and things in common with the Monkey And Parrot (HOBBIES, November, 1961). For one thing, we know the bank was made in Germany as it is so marked. Other than this, factual information as to the manufacture and so on is not known at this time. There are, to the best of the writer's knowledge, no old catalogs or other things of this nature that picture or describe the bank. Based on what we have to work with, plus its similarities and possible close relationship to the Clown And Dog and Monkey And Parrot, we place the bank, circa 1910.

The extra fine original condition Clever Dick shown was obtained through a Paris, France, antique source and, unfortunately, its background prior to this time is not known. It is an exceptionally bright cheerful type of bank with vivid coloring. These colors are as follows: The dog is done in shadings of white, grey, tan and brown. His eye has a blue iris and black pupil with white center. He wears sizeable red shoes and his peaked hat has a large red pompom. The over-size collar around his neck is white with blue definitions and red striping. The two clowns in the background, one on each side of the dog, are in red and white. A yellow recessed section over the dog's nose contains the following verse in black letters:

"I'm a star performer  
Known as  
"Clever Dick"  
Place a penny  
on my nose  
Then I will  
do my trick

Curving bright red and green sections defined in blue are on the semi-circular top half. The section below this is in green with a blue band across the bottom. The raised base is red, as is the box-like coin container section on the back. The entire back of the face plate of the bank is black. The word "Germany" is impressed



along the bottom edge of the box-shaped section in the back. There is a locking coin trap on the underside of the base section.

The writer has found that the large size English penny works correctly with this bank. It fits properly into the upper recessed section as the

operation takes place and has the right thickness, weight and diameter. American pennies will not work properly. Since the verse itself directs the use of a penny, the reference must be to the English coin. So to the operation—we first place a large

(Continued on page 51)

## Old Mechanical Banks

Conducted by  
By F. H. GRIFFITH

### TOYS WANTED

Pre 1942 cast iron, tin or windup toys, iron banks & character watches in fine to mint condition. Send pictures or list with description and price.

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(Continued from page 49)

penny on the dog's nose. Next we go to the lever located by the dog's tail. This must be depressed slowly—in so doing, the dog's mouth is caused to open by the tilting of his nose and head. The coin rolls back and up as though balancing on the tip of his nose. As the nose reaches its peak of travel, the dog's mouth is then wide open and the coin falls therein. The effect is quite realistic and unique. On releasing the lever, moving parts return to their positions automatically.

In closing, to repeat, all three banks, Monkey And Parrot, Clown And Dog, and Clever Dick, have striking similar characteristics, including construction and operation. However, the action of the coin is quite different in the case of the Clever Dick. With respect to configuration or outline of the bank, the base section, and the back box coin container, these parts are just like those of the Clown And Dog.

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Conducted by CHARLES F. FRENCH

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# A Wise Godfather

By CHARLES F. FRENCH

My earliest recollection of being interested in coins was being taken, by my parents, to see my godfather on such occasions as Thanksgiving or other holidays when "grown ups" got together.

He was a coin collector, and while such get-togethers usually are a bore to a boy, I looked forward to spending time after supper around the dining room table, sitting under a stained glass chandelier, the only light in the room, looking at his coin collection.

He would go to a cabinet by the wall and bring out several trays of United States Coins. They were home-made wooden trays, velvet lined and came out of a rather nicely finished cabinet. His pride and joy, which was the case with many collectors of the day were his large cents. When asked why he did not collect half cents also, he replied, "the sequence of dates was too broken up. In large cents you can

get one from nearly every year."

His large cents were interesting to me. He had every date ranging from good to very good. Condition to him, was not the most important thing. He did not think much of the rarity of a 1793, placed the 1799 in first place and the 1804 in close second.

He had other coins. I remember a set of two-cent pieces, all dates, but no 1864 small motto.

He most likely started me on the road to coin collecting. It was not long before I had gotten hold of a cigar box of better grade, made a crude attempt at refinishing it, and lined it with velvet. I then constructed a velvet lined tray to rest on pegs in each corner so I could get more coins in. In order to get the tray out I made a hook out a hairpin to lift it up. The trouble was that when I did, all the coins slid to one side! Anyway, I started collecting small cents. This must have been around 1914 or 1915 and there weren't many Lincolns to collect at that time; also mint marks weren't thought of, so I concentrated on getting the Indian Heads. In a reasonable length of time, I had succeeded in completing, out of circulation, all dates of Indian Heads from 1864 through 1909 with the exception of the 1877. Try as I might this one never did show up in my change. What became of the set?

(Continued on page 145)

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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

I have a very rare, fine condition, coin, 1797, George III, Cartwheel penny. This penny is solid silver. Had it authenticated.

Could you give me some information on its worth, or where could I write to find out?

—S.M., New York

## Answer:

If your 1797 English penny is genuine silver it would be a pattern or experimental piece and should be quite valuable if genuine. Patterns were known to have been struck at this time. However, genuine pieces such as this would be in perfect mirror-like proof condition showing no wear whatsoever. They also came in individual cases. If yours is only very fine condition it would indicate that it had had some rough usage through the years.

It would be difficult to say what this piece is worth without inspection, but if genuine, it would be quite rare and valuable.

—C.M., Florida

## Question:

I have six coins I cannot identify. I hope you can help me.

1) Obverse inscription, "1760 George III Reigns 1809." The word "Kettle" beneath the bust. Reverse, Long Live The King, crown in the center - rays above the crown.

2) Obverse inscription "Scheide Munze" 1 Pfennig 1864A. Reverse, 360 "Einen Thaler." Shield with eagle - crown above shield.

3) Obverse, 1 1895. Looks like a plant or flower branch beneath the "1" date under the branch. Reverse, two eagles back to back, left eagle holding a sword—right eagle holding a ball of some sort.

4) Same design as number 3 "2" on the obverse and a little larger.

5) Obverse, large "2" date 1917 below number. Reverse, design same as 3 and 4.

6) Obverse inscription "30 Einen Thaler 1 Silber Groschen 1863A Scheide Munze. Reverse, Wilhelm Koenig Von Preussen" bust of a man in the center.

The coins, 2 to 6, were bought as German coins but I cannot locate these coins anywhere in my reference book. I am using R. S. Yeoman's 9th edition. I would appreciate any help to identify these coins. If possible, please furnish Yeoman or Craig numbers. I am also trying to find a reference book for German coins giving the quantity of the coins minted. SASE enclosed for your reply.

—J.R., Pennsylvania

## Answer:

Your coin is an imitation, one of many varieties that were made for use as gaming tokens.

#2, Prussia, 1 Pfennig, Craig No. 140B, page 258.

#3, #4, Prussia, 1 and 2 Pfennig, not in either Craig or Yeoman.

#5, Emergency war money, and probably Prussian.

#6, Prussia, 1 silver Groschen, Craig, 166, page 260.

I know of no reference book on German coins giving number minted. This would be difficult to assemble due to the number of different states, and poor records kept at the time.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Would appreciate your evaluation of rubbing enclosed.

Can you give name of dealer or collector who has lists of medals, tokens, etc., including Coronation, Kings, going back to the First George, Henry, etc. I have upwards of 200 medals.

—A.E.M., Canada

## Answer:

The Louisiana Exposition medal, if gold plated on bronze catalogs for \$25. If just a gilt medal it catalogs at \$17.50. These, in uncirculated condition, retail for around half catalog.

The small steam train token is valued at around 25c.

The white metal medal for Washington Monument in white metal is rare and catalogs at \$100, will retail for around \$35.

The other 1894 medals are from the California Mid-winter Exposition, these large medals, in aluminum, catalog at \$40 each.

There were many medals issued for the Philadelphia, 1876, Centennial Exposition, but I do not see the one you have listed. This is not unusual. I'd say this one would be worth around \$10.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I would like your opinion on the value of the coin as per the pencil rubbing enclosed. I enclose 25c for handling.

—J.N., Ohio

## Answer:

Your coin is a 24 Mariengroschen piece of the Bishopric of Hildesheim Germany, 1694. While there are no catalog valuations for this era, I would say it should be worth in the vicinity of \$2.50.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Thought you might enlighten me as to the history and value of a bronze medal in my collection. I enclose a pencil rubbing. All I know about this piece is that it is from Switzerland.

—Mrs. C.W.P., Texas

## Answer:

Your bronze medal apparently is for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Swiss Republic, issued in conjunction with a celebration in 1898 in Neuchatel. I would say your medal is worth between \$2.50 and \$5.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I'll be grateful for information about the three American coins of which pencil rubbings are enclosed.

—C.S., New Jersey

## Answer:

Your 1837 dime seems to be in fair condition, and as such retails for around \$1.50.

On the Liberty seated half dime the date is not legible so I believe this is also only in fair condition. It is the type that was made from 1838 thru 1860. This type, provided it is not a rare date, is worth \$1 in its condition.

The silver three-cent piece, "Trime," as it used to be called, (1852) in fine condition would retail for around \$4.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I have the following described gold coin which I would like to know what the approximate value of the same would be. I am not quite sure from the descriptions in the Red Book just which one I have.

1907, \$10 Gold eagle, No Motto, stars on edge, Indian Head, periods between words in legend but not before and after legend. Very fine to about uncirculated condition.

—N.E.S., Missouri

## Answer:

All the 1907 St. Gauden's ten dollar gold pieces have periods between the legends. The extremely rare ones have periods before and after the legends like "United. States. of. America."

Yours is the one listed as 1907 n. periods. Valued at around \$50 in today's market.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I have recently acquired a 1679 (?) coin purchased in West Germany Berlin coin shop last winter.

"D.G. Augustus Dux Bruns E.T. L.U.; Remagio ALTISSIMI Luto (reversed), 7 1/2 cm. or 3 inches, plus, it size. Is this coin counterfeit?"

Is it likely, or possible to find duplicate or similar coin? Where can obtain information regarding this coin in extra fine condition?

P.V., Minnesota

## Answer:

There is a multiple thaler of Bruns wick and Luneberg of a ruler name Rudolph Augustus, with bust facing left, reverse has Remagio Altissimi and date 16-79, denomination five thaler. This coin catalogs at \$200.

Whether yours is a counterfeit or not I could not say without inspection as most everything rare is counterfeited today.

If you could have sent me a pencil rubbing of the coins I could have been more specific, I believe.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Could you please identify my coin from the pencil rubbing of reverse and obverse?

—E.S.N., Missouri

## Answer:

Your piece is not a coin but what is known as a church token. There are

(Continued on page 138)



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1957	10.75	10.75	15.75	1968	12.75
1958	11.75	11.75	15.75	1969	12.75
1959	11.75	11.75	15.75	1970	12.75
1960	11.75	11.75	15.75	1971	12.75
1961	11.75	11.75	15.75		

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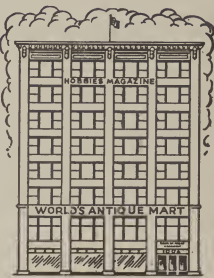
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# Watch

# Dog

# Safe

By F. H. GRIFFITH

A very limited number of mechanical banks were made in the form of a safe. Quite the opposite is true in the case of the still banks. There are so many different safe type still banks the exact number is not known, sufficient to say it runs into hundreds of kinds. Since the inception of these articles, we have covered only four safe type mechanicals in the 20 odd years. These are The United States Bank, Fortune Teller Savings Bank, Magic Safe, and the special article on the Magic Safe (Nickels Only). Now we come to the Watch Dog Safe, appropriately named, and No. 210 in the numerical classification. If one chooses, this bank very nicely fits in with the dog group. It certainly is a well conceived toy mechanical savings safe when we take into consideration that the dog guards or watches the money therein and on the deposit of each coin acknowledges same with a squeaking bark.

The Watch Dog Safe was made in the 1880's-1890's period and it is attributed to the J. & E. Stevens Company. The writer had an interesting experience years ago on the occasion of one of his visits to the Stevens Company. Usually Saturday afternoon or a Sunday was the best time to look around the place since a person, with proper permission, could do so with less disturbance involved. In any case, while in one of the buildings that contained the pattern room, always kept locked, the writer was permitted to go in and look through this special room. On the back of the wooden door of the room he noticed a colored advertising card of the Watch Dog Safe which had been glued to the door many years before. Mr. Frisbie, the man in charge, was kind enough to permit the writer to carefully remove this card from the door. At the time Mr. Frisbie said they had made the bank at Stevens and the card in question was one of their advertising flyers pasted on the door by one of the workers. Interestingly enough, the writer has never seen a Stevens catalog picturing this bank, so the card is of considerable importance. It is in colors, accurately depicts the bank, and along with showing the name "Watch Dog Safe", it states "When Deposits are made the Watch Dog Barks."

The bank shown is in all original condition and the paint is rather good for this particular bank. For some reason the Watch Dog Safe is somewhat difficult to find in nice original paint condition. Colors are as follows:



The overall safe is black and decorations on the door are in gold. The dog is white with black markings and he wears a red collar. The extended or protruding section under the dog is silver. The top of the bank shows a brown bird in a yellow nest on a brown tree branch with green leaves. This is cast in relief. Gold decorations are in each corner of the top.

On each side of the bank, cast in relief, is a Roman or Greek type bust. This is in gold, and on top of the helmet-like headgear is a long tailed brown bird. Both sides also have gold decorations in each of the four corners. This completes the coloring of the bank.

To operate, a coin is placed in the

(Continued on page 51)

## Old Mechanical Banks

Conducted by

By F. H. GRIFFITH

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Greatly increased section on the variations.

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LEHMAN, 8'ing Maerklin, Corlette, et al, Toy Automobiles, — David Bausch, 252 N. 7th St., Allentown, Pa. 18102 n128801

PRE-1940 TOY AUTO AND TRUCKS. Tootsie Toys, Ives, etc. — Al Sabol, 1257 Ridge, Wilmette, Ill. 60091 n12069

TOY TRAIN catalogs wanted. — Alden Miller, 3212 34th Ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn. 55406 mhl12238

COMPLETE fine animal cast iron and tin toys: Santa Claus for Hubley reindeer sleigh; horse for patrol wagon; Hubley front end, male connection, large horses for fire engine; 2 wheels for Kenton milk wagon; with sunburst wheels for calliope; Pratt-Letchworth male connection front end for Fire Chief's cart; Hubley front end, male connection, for fire engine; 2 wheels for Kenton milk wagon; other fine parts or incomplete toys. Medium size tender for iron locomotives. — Myron Hyde, 1460 N. Hermitage Rd., Sharon, Pa. 16146 s30441

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WANTED: A collection of mechanical banks or individual specimens. Call collect for rare banks: 1-203-633-4984. Send base tracings and price. — Robert L. McCumber, 201 Carriage Drive, Glastonbury, Conn. 06033 au6829

### MECHANICAL BANKS FOR SALE

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BOOKS: "Toy Bank Reproductions and Fakes", McCumber, \$5.95. Base Tracing to Identify Reproduced Banks. "Old Penny Banks", Meyer, Freeman, \$7.95. 400 Illustrations of Stills and Mechanicals. — Bob McCumber, 201 Carriage Drive Glastonbury, Conn. 06033 au68801

FOOTBALL KICKER pictured Warman's 10th edition page 138. First \$500 gets mechanical bank — Heartstone's House, 3312 McKinnon Ave., Dallas, Tex. 75204 au3653

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Andy Gump Grasshopper  
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 Two-faced Negro (5") Crutch  
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 Harper safe type) wheels  
 General Lee (J. M. English Bull Dog  
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 Camel with pack— Horse Head Bank  
 standing (Lift head and  
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Please—no reproductions, repaints, or broken banks.

Also want Roly Poly Brownie Tobacco Tins in good condition. Especially want Santa Claus, Chinaman, Nunk, Cowboy, etc. Also any with Dixie Queen emblem.

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Jonah & Whale Hold The Fort  
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 Presto Savings Baby Elephant (Un-  
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 Old Woman In Clows on Bar  
 The Shoe Time Lock Savings  
 Magie (Tin) Bowling Alley  
 Freedman's Bureau Musical Savings  
 Cupola Preacher In The  
 Ding Dong Bell Pulpit  
 (Tin, Wind-up) Indian Bust  
 Bowing Man In (Aluminum)  
 Cupola Treasure Chest Music  
 Bank (White  
 Seek Him Frisk Metal)  
 (Dog chases cat) Little Hi-Hat  
 Trick Savings Bank Give Me A Penny  
 Nigger (High Hat) Bank  
 Home Bank Joe  
 (Dormer Windows) Jolly Joe (Tin)

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 (Colored man  
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 ● SCHLEY  
 BOTTLING  
 UP CERVERA  
 (Penny changes  
 to quarter)  
 ● JARNEE  
 BALL TOSSER  
 (Tin, wind-up)  
 ● SHOOTER THAT  
 FIAT BANK  
 ● TOMMY BANK  
 (Penne, Soldier  
 shoots gun)  
 ● BULL &  
 BEAR BANK  
 ● COASTING BANK  
 ● MUSICAL  
 SAVING BANK  
 (You pay - I play)  
 ● PREACHER IN  
 THE PULPIT

**PISTOLS:**

● TWO DOGS ON  
 BENCH  
 ● OSCAR WILDE  
 BOMB  
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Baby Elephant	New Bank
X O'clock	North Pole
Bank Teller	Old Woman In Shoe
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In Cupola	Safe Deposit
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Serrel, Pat.)	Shout That Hat
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Clown on Bar (tin)	Trolley Motor Bank
Coin Registering	Turtle
(Dome Bldg.)	Winner (tin)
Ding Dong Bell	British Lion (tin)
(tin)	Indian Chief Bust
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Football (Darky	Magi (tin)
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Also interested in any of the better mechanical banks and all those in exceptionally fine condition. Variations and related items are of interest—Write to:

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Plus 25c postage and handling.  
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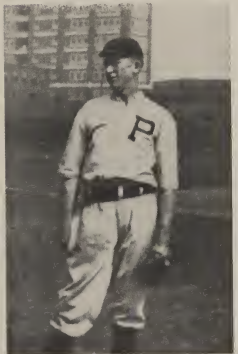
(Continued from page 49)

provided slot in the top of the safe. The coin stays in place until the lever on the left side of the bank is pressed upward. In so doing the coin drops inside automatically and the dog on the front lowers his jaw opening his mouth. A barking sound is emitted by means of a bellows inside the bank. This bellows is depressed by means of mechanism in connection with the operating lever. On release, the lever and parts return automatically to their respective positions. The operating mechanism inside the bank is interesting and rather unique. It is made in such fashion that it disconnects itself when the door is opened since working parts are on the inside of the door, as well as inside the safe itself. These parts engage themselves when the door is closed.

Coins are removed from the bank by means of the combination lock on the door. This combination number is usually 217, although other combined numbers may have been used.

## FAVORITE PIONEER RECORDING ARTISTS

(Continued from page 48)



"OLD PETE". Grover Cleveland Alexander, one of baseball's greatest pitchers, gets prominent mention in a record made in 1920.

Phil Foster, who is called "Brooklyn's Ambassador to the U.S.A.," gives a highly laughable impersonation of a typical Dodger addict of the days when there still was a National League team in Brooklyn, and a chorus of supposed "bleacher bums" howls its way through part of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," which is heard in instrumental form throughout the disc.

Pitcher Carl Erskine also receives considerable publicity. The other side, "Kids On the Corner," is by Foster and introduces the same weird chorus singing "That Old Gang of Mine."

### IV. Praise from the Baseball Hall of Fame

The crowning moment in my baseball correspondence came when I received a three-page letter from Ken Smith, who, as I have mentioned, is director of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, at Cooperstown, 70 miles west of Albany. Smith's attention had been called to the article.

He wrote to say the Museum would be delighted to have HOBBIES readers and other collectors present gifts of original recordings or taped dubbings, as well as sheet music and any other items of baseball interest. With Mr. Smith's permission, I am quoting the greater part of his letter:

"... HOBBIES is an absorbing publication, replete with information and attractive writing, advertisements and pictures... Indeed you must be the world champion authority in the recording field. The magazine and your biography are being placed in the National Baseball Library here, part of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

"The Museum does have a collection of sheet music and recordings, but limited. I would be delighted if it could be worked out for recordings to be sent to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Of course they would be protected and catalogued with immaculate care. I would like to work with somebody in taping old records, in cases in which the owner is reluctant to part with the records he saved so long. I am intrigued by the paragraph in your article reading in part: 'It would be a project worth while for somebody who combines love of record-collecting with a passion for baseball to try to put such a collection together and present it to the museum.' I hope this idea will blossom into action.

"Your article is breath-taking in its extent. A list of the music you mention, alone, is worth while to have in the Museum, to start with. Later as the collection is accumulated it will be broken down into departments. For instance, parodies. The New York Baseball Writer's show, annual since 1923, has presented hundreds of verses cleverly written by Bill Slocum, Bill Matthias, Arthur Mann and Leonard Koppett, who first came to mind. Some were recorded when presented on the stage of the Waldorf Hotel.

"There is the category of march music given a baseball title such as 'Home Run Polka,' written by a Mrs. Bodek in 1917. Harry Dichter of Philadelphia sent several pieces of that ilk and they were displayed at the Hall of Fame. There is an exhibit, presently on view, of sheet music contributed by Tommy Ferris, a Chicago entertainer. Seen in the case are colorful covers such as ladies with their big feathered hats and this music: 'Where the Shy Little Violets Grow,' sung by Waite Hoyt at the Palace in New York. 'Come Out to the Baseball Game,' by Lou Silvers. 'Remember Me to My Old Gal,' by George Morlarity, Detroit third baseman. 'Babe Ruth He is a Home Run Guy,' by A. Atkins and Harry W. Trout. 'I Want to Go to the Ball Game,' by W. Brown. 'It's a Grand Old Game,' by Harry S. Faunce, 'Cubs on Parade,' two step by H. R. Hempel. 'That Baseball Rag,' 1913, by Dave Wolff and Clarence Gray.

"Elsewhere framed is 'Take Your Girl to the Ball Game,' by George M. Cohan. And of course 'Take Me Out to the Ball Game,' original copy by Jack Norworth. In the 'Rube' Marquard exhibit is the sheet music of 'The Marquard Glide'."

"There has been so much baseball music that when it is all catalogued some time it will be a formidable undertaking.

"As for non-musical recordings, in the first place there are thousands of taped interviews with ball players. I have made nearly 500 myself. Russ Hodges' radio description of Bobby Thomson's home run in 1951 is a classic. No doubt you are familiar with the Columbia record, 'Greatest Moment in Sports,' Edward J. Murrow's 'I Can Hear It Now,' by E. Brown on 'How to Play Baseball,' Lawrence Ritter's 'Glory of Their Times' interview, Lou Gehrig with Charley McConnen, seven long 'RFX' sides of Ty Cobb talking informally; Gehrig and Ruth's farewells, Babe Ruth making a boys' club recording for his manager Christy Walsh... I remember him (Ruth) making a record, a line in it going: 'When the psychological mind meets the psychological moment, the psychological walltop follows.'

"I have a recording of Giants manager Christy Walsh singing 'I Left My Heart in San Francisco.' Twenty-five years ago I wrote a piece on music for Baseball Magazine, so you can know that the museum director is minded in that direction. The best baseball quartet I ever heard was Al Mamaux, Pittsburgh and Brooklyn, first tenor; Jocko Conlan, White Sox, second tenor; Bill Perry, New York Giants, baritone; Jack Bentley, New York Giants, bass. There are several baseball musicians and they used to be great on harmony singing. Russ W. Lindner wrote a story about how a quartet of players contrived to break up a deal by a manager to trade off their second tenor.



BASEBALL ENTHUSIAST. Until he was past 50, playing ball was Billy Murray's favorite recreation. The great recording comedian usually played right field, but in this picture he appears to be holding down an infield post. Billy was a member of the "Lights" club at Freeport, L.I., where he lived. The team, composed of theatrical personalities, was sponsored by the Long Island Good Hearted Thespians Society from whose initials it took its name.

"It has taken me all these paragraphs to say thanks. I enjoyed your article so much and the museum would be pleased to acquire a recording collector. Sincerely, Ken Smith, Director."

I hope this article will result in many HOBBIES readers making contributions to Mr. Smith at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Cooperstown, N.Y., 13236, as well as in their visiting the "shrine" itself. If my broken-down tape recorder ever returns to active service I shall copy all the material I have recorded form concerning the gam and send it in.

I am sure the Institution would welcome not only recordings and sheet music, but any thing of baseball interest, such as cards with pictures of ball players that used to come with packages of cigarettes and wrapper candy bars and were so popular during the early years of this century. When I was a boy I had more than a thousand cards, given to me by a man who collected them when he was half-grown, but years later they were all lost in moving, except one of Fredrick Alfred Parent, long-ago infielder for the Boston Red Sox and Chicago White Sox. It probably survives because it was used as a book-mark.

### V. Final Wind-Up

I just have recalled that one song the recordings of which should have been mentioned, is "Tessie (You Are the Only, Only)," a hit of some 7 years ago. The words had nothing to do with baseball, but it was the "official song" of the Boston Red Sox's "Royal Rooters" of that period who sang it before and during each game.

I have seen a picture of this old

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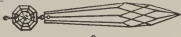
# OLD DROVER INN

31 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 6  
Westfield, N.Y. 14877

## ANTIQUARIAN SUPPLIES

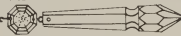
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3" (3 1/4" overall) 18c ea \$2.00 a doz.  
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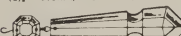
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**NOTCHED U DROP GLASS PRISM**  
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**FROG DROP PRISM**  
4" (4 1/4" overall) 50c ea \$5.00 a doz.



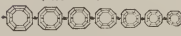
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**"A" BASKET CHAINS**  
5 1/4" (overall) 50c ea, \$5.00 a doz.



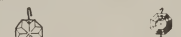
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**9" GRADUATED CHAIN**  
\$1.00 ea \$10 a doz.



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**FULL CUT FRENCH PENDANT**  
2 1/4" each overall—40c ea. \$4.00 a doz.



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**UNIFORM CHAIN 3 3/8" long**  
\$2.00 ea., \$20.00 per doz.



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2 3/4" 25c ea, \$2.50 a doz.  
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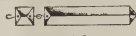
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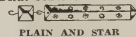
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3" dia., 5 Pin Holes, 1 1/2" center hole \$1 ea., \$10 a doz.  
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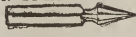
### STAR COLONIAL



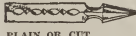
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### PLAIN SPEAR



### CUT SPEAR



### PLAIN OR CUT SPEAR CRYSTAL PRISMS

5" (overall) 50c ea. \$5 a doz.  
6" (overall) (CUT SPEARS ONLY) 75c ea., \$7.50 per doz.  
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8" (overall) (CUT SPEARS ONLY) \$1.25 ea.—\$12.50 doz.  
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with 6" leads. An easy way to display and sell fixtures — plus convenience to unhook and clean chandelier, etc. \$1.50 ea. With large cast brass hook \$2.50 ea. assembled.

### CRYSTAL BOBECHEs

Thin Candle Bobecbe, 3", No Pin Holes 50c ea., \$5 a doz.

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50 ea., \$5 a doz.

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### Miscellaneous

Stevensgraph, approx. 4x5". Christmas poem, colorful flowers, etc. Satin lined border, \$20. Collectors Fan, "Mandarin". See "The Fan Book," Percival, p. 165. 119 ivory heads, Court scenes on both sides; in shaped lacquer box. Sandalwood sticks perfect. 2 sets in leaf. Few minor repairs needed, \$25. Sat. 4 different, full color, French imported Photos of Duvalieroy Fans 13x9". Figures, gold touched in, not framed, \$6 set. Gelinoid 10" Blonde Boy Doll. Molded milk on back. Turtle in Diamond. 2 1/2". Loose in leg socket, NZ, Alpine costume, \$5. 4 Curtain Tie-backs w/shafts. Old Czechoslovak china, 3 1/2". Lovely floral decal cover tops, \$25 for 1 extra china top, \$1.

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Ruby red Decanter Bottle, 14", double lip. Original 1 1/2" red ball stopper mounted where ball joins stem of stopper, \$25. 5" octagon Skating Chandelier Lantern. Wire handle, 1 glass broken but all there. Daintily scalloped struts, 1 loose, \$10.

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Conducted by CHARLES F. FRENCH

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Coin Catalogue 25c

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By CHARLES F. FRENCH

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When, finally, I saw his special offer of a "Large Cent with each coin book" for a dollar postpaid, I could not resist and rushed him my dollar. This was my first mail order Numismatic transaction!

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I received, in due time, a rather nice edition 1851 cent, and the book. Believe me, I read that book from cover to cover many times.

There were all kinds of shops in New York City selling coins in those days. Many such shops carried the coins more or less as a nuisance. I walked into one of those shops one day and asked, "Got any 1856 eagle cents?"

Three were thrown across the counter to me.

"How much?" I asked. "Fifty cents each, if you take them all," was the answer.

I gave the \$1.50.

When I got home I thought at first I had been stuck, as the first coin turned out to be an altered date. The second coin, when some of the grime was taken off it, was just "good." The third? Well that turned out to be a nice proof. I owned that for many years.

Were there bargains in the 1920s? Using today as a criterion I certainly would say there were. I bought a beautiful 1904 double eagle, extremely fine, with proof lustre, for \$20.50. I picked it out by mulling through a box full of "twenties."

Around the same time I splurged and spent a \$2 premium or \$12 for a 1799 \$10 gold piece in uncirculated condition. These two coins have been my pets all my life. I still have them.

United States gold coins were not

(Continued on page 141)

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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

Enclosed is a group of rubbings of coins I got while traveling in England. The Victorian crown is in unbelievable condition. The Elizabeth I coin is slightly bent. I would appreciate having some information on them. Thank you. —M.J.A., Ohio

## Answer:

Your Victoria crown of 1889 seems to be in extremely fine condition and as such catalogs at \$42.

The 1793 coin is a half guinea of George III, if genuine. These catalogs at \$17.50 in very fine condition although I do not think yours is as good as that.

The Elizabeth coin is a shilling, hammered coinage, cataloging at about \$20.

The other is an Irish one-penny of George IV of England, 1822, good condition, catalogs at \$6.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Please find enclosed a pencil rubbing of a silver coin, which appears to be Spanish. Could you please tell me its value?

Thank you. It is in very fine condition. —S.W., Pennsylvania

## Answer:

The coin you have is an 8-real silver coin of Charles IV of Spain, coined at the Mexico City Mint. It seems to be in nice condition and as such catalogs for around \$5. C.F., Florida

## Question:

Am enclosing rubbings of two coins in my possession. I believe the one at the top of the paper is a Cob 4 Escudos. I have no idea what the bottom coin is, except it might be Spanish, and some fool drilled a hole in it.

I would appreciate any information as to what they are and what value they have. Thank you.

—J.B., Illinois

## Answer:

The first piece is a crude 8 Escudo, not 4 Escudo, 1687 of Peru, crude Cob type and seems to be genuine from the pencil rubbing. This cannot be definitely ascertained without inspection.

The second is an 8 Real silver coin of Lima mint, Peru, of Ferdinand the VII of Spain. The hole hurts its value. It would only be worth around \$1.50 due to the hole.

The gold piece, if genuine, could be worth \$200 or more. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

I have an 1840 penny. This coin is rubbed pretty smooth and it was hard to get a pencil rubbing. Can you tell me the value of such a coin?

—Mrs. R.J.D., Missouri

## Answer:

Your large cent of 1840 in the condition indicated is worth \$1.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Many years ago I purchased a bronze medal in Europe. It was green with age and impossible to make out any figures on it so unfortunately I had it cleaned. Enclosed you will find a pencil rubbing (which is not very clear) so I am enclosing a larger sketch.

The medal is bronze, stamped on only one side and is about 3 inches in diameter. It depicts a large eagle wearing a crown attacking two two-headed birds with the letters "ALLE" and "RUSS?" above their necks. Above there is apparently the sun god, to the left an animal overlooking two boats, and below, left, what seems to be a lion with the word "PRUSSE" written above. At the inferior portion of the coin is written "ATAILLE DES 3 EMPERE—." I would appreciate whatever information you might be able to provide.

—H.S., MD., Illinois

## Answer:

This is apparently a plaque, not necessarily a medal, and seems to refer to the Franco-Prussian War. Indicates the crowned bird defeating its enemies. "Prusse" is for Prussia. Rukso for Russia. Alle for Allies. The balance seems to refer to the "3rd Empire which could be for France. Guess I cannot give you much more information than that.

C.F., Florida

## Question:

Attached you will find copy of a note dated Dec. 15th, 1840, on The Bank of the United States for 1000, this is printed on parchment apparently, and is in good condition. There is nothing printed on the reverse of this document. Please advise if this is authentic and the approximate present value. Thank you kindly.

—J.K.E., Missouri

## Answer:

If your bill is on parchment-like paper it is a recent copy. The original ones were on very thin tissue-like paper. Many thousands of these were copied and sold as souvenirs a few years ago.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I am enclosing a rubbing of the medal. It is very heavy copper and the rim is 3/16 inches thick.

—N.S.H., Ohio

## Answer:

Your coin is known as a "Souvenir Indian Head Penny."

Prior to 1910 or so they were a fad and sold at Fairs and Carnivals as souvenirs of the place attended. This one seems to be from Harrisburg, Pa. There are many dozens of these from all parts of the country and collectors collect them. Their usual price is \$1 each.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Could you please tell me the value of a 1923F \$1 silver certificate. On the left the name is H. H. Spielman, and on the right is the name Frank White. The number of the bill is H 56738506D.

—L.M.C., Massachusetts

## Answer:

The value of your large sized silver certificate \$1, is dependent upon its condition. If crisp, new, unfolded, it would be worth around \$20; if just folded, or bent slightly, worth about \$10; if considerably used, about \$4. These are retail selling prices. Dealers would pay about 40 per cent of these prices.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed are the imprints of five coins I have in my possession. A friend told me not to sell them until I checked with you on their value.

I would appreciate any information you can furnish on them. Thank you.

—Mrs. W.R., Jr., Arkansas

## Answer:

Respecting your #1 coin. The design is of Spanish origin and could be either Spanish or South American under Spain. However, I doubt the authenticity of the coin. The design is somewhat that of a gold 8 Escudo coin but the question as to whether it is bronze or not raises the question, plus the fact that the design is not clear enough.

Your #2 coin is a Groat most likely from France or England, around the 12th or 13th century. Beyond this I cannot identify it as the lettering is not clear.

The #3 coin is a late issue Tetradrachm of Greece under Roman rule. There again the lettering is illegible.

Coin #4 is a Tetradrachm of one of the Ptolemies of Egypt, between 150 and 300 B.C. It seems a nice specimen and most likely worth around \$50.

Coin #5 is an English penny of George V, quite common, valued at 50 cents.

The #1 coin, if genuine, could be of considerable value, the others not a great deal.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I am requesting information concerning a coin (rubbings below).

The front side says "United States of America - Columbian Half Dollar," with the head of Columbus.

The rear side says, "Columbian Exposition." "World's" precedes these two words, so it reads "World's Columbian Exposition Chicago," with one of his ships, and under it 1492. The date at bottom is 1893.

I would appreciate knowing the value of this coin. Thank you.

—G.E.M., New York

## Answer:

The coin you have is one of the first American Commemorative half dollars struck. Although the first year is 1892, the series also was coined in 1893, the year the most were coined.

Yours seems to be in fine condition and as such catalogs at \$2.

C.F., Florida

(Continued on page 139)



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October, 1972

Vol. 77, No. 8

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# Mule Entering Barn Bank

By F. H. GRIFFITH



Mechanical banks representing country life, rural or farm scenes are rather few and far between, however, the limited types made utilizing this subject matter form a very appealing nostalgic group. Probably the outstanding mechanical that so well typifies and accurately depicts the country-farm division is the Milking Cow Bank, a great mechanical with amusing, clever action. Over the years the writer has never encountered anyone, collector or otherwise, who didn't really like, understand, and appreciate the Milking Cow. It could be said it

is one of the animated toy savings devices having universal appeal. (Information covering the Milking Cow appeared in *HOBBIES*, August, 1953.) As we reach No. 213 in the numerical classification we have chosen a member of this same group, and while its appeal may not be as great as that of the Milking Cow it in its own way certainly has desirable aspects and considerable attraction. This is the Mule Entering Barn, a bank that well fits the rural theme. Other mechanicals comprising the group are Boys Stealing Watermelons, Hen and Chick, Weeden's Plantation Ducky Savings Bank, Uncle Remus, Bad Accident, and perhaps a border-line bank or two such as I Always Did 'Spise A Mule.

The Mule Entering Barn was patented August 3, 1880 by Edward L. Morris of Boston, Mass., and this patent date is used on the base of the bank itself. We mention this with respect to the fact Mr. Morris patented the bank previous to this date, specifically January 6, 1880. In this patent, however, unlike the bank as manufactured, the figure of the mule pivoted at the shoulder on the front legs.

That is to say the body of the mule moved up and over on stationary front legs, the front legs being fastened to the base. The bank as produced is just like the patent drawings and text of the August 3rd date with one very interesting and important exception. Mr. Morris made no provision in his patent text or drawings for the dog that runs out of the barn. Whether he or the J. & E. Stevens Company who made the bank added this most attractive additional action is not known, and it doesn't really matter as in either case it is a very desirable feature. Not mentioned in the text of either patent is the movement of the mule's offset tail. This was a practical additional action since had it been made stationary it well could have interfered with the coin when thrown from the hind legs into the barn.

The bank shown is in extra fine, all original condition. The paint is exceptionally nice and colors are as follows: The roof is medium tan brown with a red stripe along the length of the peak. The under-section of each end of the roof is red. The sides, back and parts

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By F. H. GRIFFITH

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of the front of the barn are an off shade of green. The inside entrance way is yellow. In the bottom of the entrance way is representation of green grass into which the mule's head more or less fits when positioned therein. Red outlines the windows, the sides, and other parts of the building. Two small rear sections are on either side of the mule's front legs and these are the same color as the main roof and outlined in red. The base is a darker red-brown striped in red. The mule is dark brown with black mane, tail, mouth and rear hoofs. He has white eyes. The dog is white spotted in black and definition of his eyes is also black. That completes the coloring on a very attractive bank.

To operate, the mule is pulled down into position as shown in the picture. Also, as shown, a coin is placed between his rear legs. Then a small lever on the base is pressed forward. The mule rapidly pivots over and he ends up standing on his head in the barn. The coin is thrown inside the building as the mule's tail moves up and to the side. At the same time a dog springs forward from an entrance way in the lower front of the barn. This opening shows in the photo. Good action and the mule is again pulled down in position as shown for further operation.

In closing, it is well to point out that the tail of the mule is the vulnerable part of this bank. More often than not when an example turns up the tail is either broken or missing.

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# Numismatics

Conducted by CHARLES F. FRENCH

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By CHARLES FRENCH

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A couple of years later he had a heart attack, and, while confined to his bed in the hospital, asked his wife to get him the bag of cents to look over. It contained enough Brilliant Uncirculated double dies to net him, at that time, over \$30,000. Apparently all of the double dies had been sent to the Federal Reserve in Boston, and were distributed by them through New England.

We knew a cattle dealer and farmer in Bennington, Vt., who was coin conscious. Periodically he came into our shop in Troy with two or three double dies for sale. He had found them in some Uncirculated Rolls from the local bank.

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At the time we wondered whether (Continued on page 149)

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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

I have a stamp, Kansas Statehood 1861-1961, 4 Cents. It is brown and yellow with a big sunflower in the left corner.

I have never seen a stamp like this. It is United States Postage. I would like to know if it has any value.

I also have a Silver Dollar, 1923, in very good condition. Also:

A 1914 Dime in fair condition.

3 Buffalo Nickels that are worn.

A 1927 Half-penny, British, with George V's head on it.

1 1906 Indian Head Penny. Thank you.

—Mrs. D.H., Indiana

## Answer:

Your stamp has no premium value. The silver dollar is worth \$2. The dime, is worth 20 cents. The worn Buffalo nickels, without dates, are worth face value. The English Half Penny is worth 2 cents and the Indian Head Cent is worth 10 to 15 cents.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Below is the pencil rubbing of a coin I found in an old house in Milwaukee. I got the dust off and found the coin was very interesting, with a picture of Abe Lincoln, with 10 stars surrounding him and on the back the words, Souvenir of Denver. I am pretty sure that it is lead with a copper coating.

I could find nothing about it, except that Lincoln is the same copy of the Lincoln cent, but enlarged. It is in very fine condition except some of the copper has faded away or come off.

I would like you to tell me how much it is worth and where it came from if you can. Thank you.

—T.B., Wisconsin

## Answer:

These souvenir Pennies have been issued from time to time all over the country for souvenirs of Fairs, Expositions, etc. These are not real money but tokens. Today these usually bring between 50 cents and a dollar to collectors.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Would you tell me anything about this coin and its value? See the pencil rubbing of it.

—V.P.D., Kansas

## Answer:

Your coin is a Spanish coin, an emergency piece during the revolution, of 10 Reales. It was struck over a French  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ecu, 1821. Though this ordinarily catalogs at \$7.50, your pencil rubbing indicates your coin has a hole in it. This mutilation would materially reduce the coin's value to probably around \$1.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I'm enclosing some pencil rubbings of two "medals." Can you tell me anything about these or their value? Each has a ring in the top.

The one side of the silver one has a woman with a halo, a sceptre and crown on head, a baby in her arms with hand extended, also small halo. I assume this is some kind of religious medal. It's very heavy.

I shall be glad for any information you can supply me.

—Mrs. A.S., New York

## Answer:

The first piece (silver) is a coin, Thaler of Maximilian Joseph, King of Bavaria. Its value is \$3.50.

The second a copper piece, is a medal of Franz Joseph, King of Austria and Hungary. It apparently commemorates his birthday. It is valued at 50 cents.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I found this coin in a box of junk. The coin is holed. Appears to be Spanish, and gold. Pencil rubbing no good. What is this coin?

—R.J.R., Illinois

## Answer:

The coin you have is a 10-Escudo coin of Isabella of Spain. In very nice condition, excepting the hole, it would have been worth \$50. The hole, however, is a mutilation and reduces the coin's value to about \$5.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I have been a subscriber to HOBBIES, and a coin collector for many years. I am always interested in your Question and Answer Dept. On Coins.

I have a One-cent piece, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, Liberty Head and 1803 one side; United States of America, reverse side, One Cent 1803. It's very soiled but all marks are clearly discernable, even Liberty Head profile distinct, hair outline, etc; 1803 very clear, as is wreath, etc. Does this have any value?

I know about the 1804 by reading in Coin Book. Also advertising as being valued at \$11,000, but of course, I am not so fortunate as to have that.

This coin was found in a piece of land in the Adirondack Mountains while the owner was making a garden back of his summer home. I brought it back to Florida to inquire of you thru HOBBIES, as he didn't know too much about coins.

Will send it to you if necessary. The edge of this coin has very small specks of copper (?) showing through.

Will look for your reply in one of the following issues of HOBBIES. Thank you.

—Mrs. I.S., Florida

## Answer:

There are several varieties of the 1803 large Cent and its value is determined by its condition. Insofar as it apparently laid in the ground for a long time and has evidence of corrosion this would not be an outstandingly choice specimen.

With the absence of a pencil rubbing of the coin it is difficult for me to ascertain its condition. However I can give you a price range of values.

If the coin is somewhat worn and

in "good" condition it would retail for \$5., if very good condition, for \$9, if "FINE" condition, \$12.50.

I doubt if the coin would rate better than that. Prices are for the commonest variety.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Kindly send American Guide to U.S. Coins. Enclosed \$1.39.

Also, is it possible that the Scandinavian coin as noted below can be appraised by you? See pencil rubbings of front, side, back. Material of coin, copper.

—H.V.E., New Jersey

## Answer:

The coin you have is a 2 Ore coin of Sweden, 1766, of Adolph Frederick. Condition fine, catalogs at \$2.

Your American Guide to U.S. Coins has gone out to you under separate cover.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I am enclosing a pencil rubbing of a dime that was part of a roll of dimes I received from our local bank. I believe this is called an "off center" strike, and wonder if you would verify this. And also advise me as to its current value.

Also, I have two five dollar bills on which the seal and serial numbers are printed in red ink. My teen-age son thought these were worth more than face value, and while I am doubtful, would appreciate your opinion.

—Mrs. J.F.N., Florida

## Answer:

Your dime is a mint error and would be classified as "Off center 75% at 12 o'clock." The valuation of such a coin is around \$35 to \$50. A nice find.

The red seal \$5 bills in circulated condition are worth face value only.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I have what appears to be a bronze coin or medal which says, "This coin struck from parts of the Frigate Constellation. First ship of the U.S. Navy." On the reverse side is a picture of the U.S. Constellation and the date 1797. Can you tell me the age and value, if any, of this coin?

—Mrs. J.E.A., Oklahoma

## Answer:

The token you have is a souvenir. Its legend is self-explanatory. These tokens are sold to raise funds for the particular project mentioned. They very possibly still could be coined.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed is a rubbing of a coin which appears to be Spanish or Spanish-American, dated 1779. The coin, silver, is in very good condition with all the letters or inscriptions clear. Please advise if this coin is of any value.

—Mrs. D.J.M., North Carolina

## Answer:

Your coin is a 4-Real coin of Charles III of Spain, 1779, issued at their Peruvian mint. Its value is around \$5.

—C.F., Florida

(Continued on page 148)



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Vol. 77, No. 9

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X



A different and very interesting example of the Artillery Bank has recently come to light. There is no question as to its authenticity and originality or to its being a production bank. Everything about it is right. It will be known as Artillery Bank, Type II (Helmeted Figure) and necessarily at this point classified as No. 214 in the numerical classification.

There is not a great deal to say with respect to the general appearance and operation of this bank since it looks like and has the same action of the regular Artillery Bank, (HOBBIES, April 1971). The figure of the soldier however is another matter. It is quite different than that of the regular Artillery. The helmet and other casting differences very definitively represent a German or Prussian type soldier. It possibly could have been made as an export item but in any case it is obviously quite a scarce bank and undoubtedly had limited production.

The bank has the rectangular locking coin trap, over all bronze finish and based on what we have to go on it was a product of the Shepard Hardware Company rather than J. & E. Stevens. Bear in mind both companies made the regular Artillery Bank, but we know of no painted examples by Shepard, no bronze examples by Stev-

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### Artillery Bank (Helmeted Figure)

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TOY TRAIN catalogs wanted. — Alden Miller, 3212 34th Ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn. 55406 mh12328

ens and none were made by Shepard with the round Stevens trap. Likewise Stevens did not use the locking rectangular trap on their Artillery Banks. They modified the original Shepard patterns to accept the use of their round trap.

Back to the helmet type figure for a moment, it is important to note that the entire figure is of necessity a different casting than that of the regular soldier wearing the visor type cap or hat. The spike peak of the helmet fits through the helmet itself and locks in place inside the head of the figure thus holding the head-piece in place.

Figure I (top) shows the bank before or after the action. Figure II (below) pictures the bank set to operate. As with the regular Artillery the soldier drops his positioned firing signal arm and the coin is fired or propelled from the mortar into the blockhouse. A paper cap can be used in the mortar to cause a loud report as the action occurs. The patent date of May 31st, 1892 is cast in the base and the same patent papers thus apply to this bank as with the regular Artillery.

The bank shown has been, more or less, under wraps for some years. It certainly is an intriguing item and makes a great companion piece when displayed with the Stevens painted type. The bank can in many respects be considered a new find, the best to the writer's knowledge, prior to this time, it was not generally known to exist.

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## COINS & WORLD OF MAN

By CHARLES FRENCH

If you were to transport yourself back 2500 years, you would find a world far different from today's. Money, as it is known now, was non-existent.

Had you been well-to-do, your assets

would have been made up of sheep, cattle, horses, and other commodities. Strength through arms was so important, you very likely would have had a small army of Mercenaries for your protection.

Everyday business transactions were a crude and uncertain thing, done solely by barter and trade. Food and commodities were not available as they are today, to be purchased as needed. If you wanted meat you "raised" it, and you traded your surplus for other items. If you wanted meal you ground it. Slaves did the actual work.

When Darius the Great, King of Persia, learned of the small pieces of metal struck in electrum by the Lydians, and used in trade, these oval "lumps" were more or less of uniform size and were stamped with their emblem to insure purity and correct weight.

It was about 700 BC that the Lydians issued these small pieces of metal in electrum. They were stamped with the Lydian emblem and became very popular in trade.

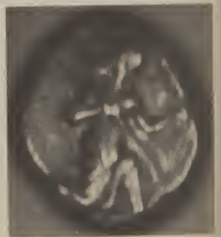
When Darius learned of them and their popularity, he foresaw that small pieces of metal could become the principle factor for success in trade. He therefore issued a decree that henceforth Persia also would issue similar articles for trade.

This was one of the first mass productions of coins. His gold Darics, silver siglos, crude oval-shaped lumps of metal depicting a Persian Archer on the obverse, simple incised design on the reverse, became the most accepted "coins" then available to merchants.

It became the policy of the cities around the Mediterranean to identify their coinage by an emblem using a copy of some bird or animal. Athens, in Greece, adopted the "owl" and as her trade thrived, her Tetradrachms became known and accepted wherever offered.

After many years of warfare in which the Persians attempted to conquer the Greek peninsula, the Macedonian, Alexander the Great, defeated the Persian Empire. This started him on his orgy of conquest. Although his Empire was short lived due to his death, he had brought under his control, all the lands from Greece down to Egypt, and as far East as India.

He established many mints throughout the area and introduced a style of coinage that was the most artistic of those times. His gold Staters and silver Tetradrachms became the realms' medium of exchange. The styles of his coins were copied for many centuries.



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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

Please let me know the origin of this coin and its value.

—L.Z., Florida

## Answer:

The pencil rubbing you sent is of a half Scudo of the Duke of Savoy and Sardinia, Victor Amadeus II, 1675-1730. The Scudo of this ruler is quite rare, being valued at \$200, but the half Scudo would not run that high. I would venture to say yours is worth around \$50. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

Please find enclosed rubbings of what I had believed to be some sort of medal having to do with the Olympics, but I find it doesn't.

The only writing on it is the number

## WANTED

WANTED TO BUY: Old tokens, medals, badges, buttons. — Earl Romey, Box 201, Bluffton, Ind. jcl2698

WANTED TO BUY: U.S. coins, gold and obsolete currency. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1893 Charleston, W. Va. 25327 my122511

WANTED SILVER COINS: Dated 1964 or before, any condition, dimes, quarters, halves and dollars. Paying 12% over face. Any amount. Ship to — Jake Hendlin, Box 12413, St. Louis, Mo. 63132 ap126581

PAYING TOP prices for gold coins, old currency, Confederate, fractional, bank notes. Large quantity bank reference. — Claude Wadsworth, 5521 1st Ave., So., Birmingham, Ala. 35212 ap126351

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10 as indicated on the rubbing.

Any information as to what it is and if it has any value would be appreciated.

Would also like your opinion on my California gold pieces, rubbing enclosed. —M.M., California

## Answer:

I regret to be unable to give you any information on the token. Your assumption that it is from some Olympics very possibly could be true, for they show various figures of sportsmen, nothing else. This type of medal could be made by most any concern in the world, for most any purpose and not necessarily a numismatic item. Just an interesting token!

The other piece, is a California gold charm, an imitation California gold coin of the pioneer days. It most likely is not gold but brass, gold plated and is intended to represent a 25c gold piece. These are still made. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

Please give me any information concerning the enclosed pencil rubbings of a bronze medallion. Also what it may be worth if anything.

—Mrs. B.K., California

## Answer:

This apparently is a medal struck or designed by I. Mauger for Louis XIV of France and his wife, Maria Theresa of Austria. The date is 1660. It seems to be in very nice condition and if solid bronze should be worth around \$5. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

I have a 1942 Lincoln penny that has a line through the middle cutting off the president's beard. Evidently this was a mistake in minting. Is there a market for such a coin? If so, what would it be worth?

Mrs. M.R., Illinois

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LINCOLNS, 1907-1934 PDS, 15 different \$1.50. BU Silver Dollar, my choice, \$4.25. — Jim Archbold, Box 453, Rock Falls, Ill. 61071 n3863

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SILVER DOLLAR, 10 different Lincolns, 25 Columbian. All 35 uncirculated coins (\$8.50 value) only \$4.95. — Exotic's, Box 1264, Boston, Mass. d3023

## Answer:

I believe the straight cut or line across your cent must have been made by a knife or something sharp, particularly if it is incised. If it appears to be raised, care must be taken to ascertain if it was a slanting cut raising a lip along a slice. This would make it appear as though it was a raised line when it really isn't.

If it actually was a "lumpy" type raised line with no evidence of cut it could possibly be a line caused by a broken die. Being as straight as you indicate does not point to this fact however, for a broken die would most likely be uneven.

I therefore believe your "line" is a mutilation rather than a mint error. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed is a pencil rubbing of a German, 1876, one pfennig. Could you tell me the value of this coin?

—J.O., Iowa

## Answer:

I am sorry to have to tell you that the small 1 pfennig coins you illustrated are very common indeed, retailing for only 5 cents each.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Attached is a rubbing of the largest of four gold medallions which was given to our library. Our donor advised us that they came from Germany (he had a sales slip, etc.).

Note that the slide showing the torch has the inscription "Frieden ist Freiheit" and around the rim of the medallion is the inscription "Zur Erinnerung an den Todestag 22. 11. 63." Above and at side of flame is 900.

The other side has "President Kennedy, John F., U.S.A." and the initials of the artist (I presume) F.B.

This rubbing is of the largest. The smallest is 1 inch across.

These medallions were represented to us as being of solid gold. We were advised that they were worth around \$2000.

Can you give us any advise as to the authenticity and value (for insurance purposes) of these commemorative medals? We would greatly appreciate any advice.

—D.A.F., Iowa

## Answer:

There were a great many medals struck in foreign countries, particularly in West Germany for the death of President Kennedy. He was very well thought of all over the world.

The medals you mention, I am not acquainted with, and frankly have never heard of any of the size you illustrate, 50mm as having been struck in gold. This, however, does not mean that they were not made. You show a small "900" which seems to appear on the edge, and this indicates that it is of a valuable metal 900 fine.

You mention that the donor had the sales slip for the medals. These should indicate their cost, and, if gold must have been considerable. If the donor can give you a letter indicating their present value of \$2000 and some ver-

(Continued on page 155)

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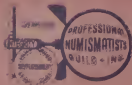
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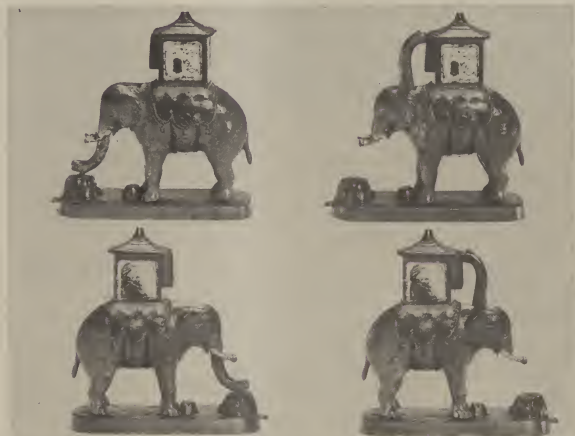
# Old Mechanical Banks

Conducted by

By F. H. GRIFFITH

## Elephant Howdah (Locked)

By F. H. GRIFFITH



Well, at long last, we have finally come up with an Elephant Howdah (Locked) that is an old original bank in all respects. In the writer's opinion the bank pictured is completely authentic and this conclusion was reached after considerable personal careful examination of the bank itself. Since there is a difference in each side of the howdah and other factors, we are showing the bank from each side both before and after the action. At this point in the numerical classification the Elephant Howdah (Locked) is necessarily No. 215.

Mrs. Wally Tudor is the fortunate collector who discovered the bank recently and, of course, he has added it to his fine collection of mechanicals. It is in very nice condition with good paint and the colors are as follows: The peaked top of the howdah is dark red and the section under this is blue. The square recessed sections on both sides are white. The side with the figure cast therein depicts a black bearded man wearing a red hat and brown jacket. His facial coloring is natural. The blanket on the elephant

is dark red trimmed in yellow with two black straps. The elephant is a green-grey color and he has white tusks with gold balls on the ends. The base is an off-shade of green and the two tree stumps thereon are brown. The underside of the base is a light green, and cast on the underside is the wording 'Pat July 30 1900.'

Figures 1 and 2 show the bank before and after operation. The coin is placed in the end of the trunk when in the down position. Then the lever, just under the large tree stump on which the trunk of the elephant rests, is pressed down and the coin is thrown into the howdah as shown by the position in Figure 2. Please note in Figure 2 the two tree stumps on the base. The one by the elephant's front legs serves the purpose of a spring container for the operating lever. This mechanism is on the underside of the base. Also note that the trunk of the elephant is a one-piece casting on this side. Further note that the locking coin trap is in the howdah.

Now to Figures 3 and 4 again showing the bank before and after

operation. While not visible in Figure 3, it can be seen in Figure 4 that the trunk of the elephant is made in two parts on this side. It is made in this fashion to allow for the slot which holds the coin. And, of course, note the figure of the man in the howdah on this side and again the two tree stumps on the base. It is important to remember the tree stumps by the elephant's front legs as this is one sure way to identify this original old bank. Another means of identification is the operating lever. It should not be a flat spring with a knob on the end, but rather, as on the bank shown, a well made cast iron lever held in place by two lugs and accentuated by a coil spring inserted in the small tree stump.

In closing, it is interesting to note that since M. Tudor's great good fortune in acquiring this bank still another original one has turned up and they are, with one exception, identical. The word 'Bank' appears on the locking coin trap over the keyhole on this example and it was definitely made this way originally.

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By CHARLES FRENCH

The early death of Alexander left the civilized world in a turmoil for he had not had time to consolidate his Empire. It split up and several of his Generals took parts for their own.

Ptolemy II Philadelphus was one of these. He ruled Egypt with a magnificent and desolute court. His second wife, Queen Arsene, reputedly issued one of the ancient world's most beautiful coins. A gold octodrachm shows the Queen on the obverse with veiled head. A double cornucopia is on the reverse.

Around the same time in the third century BC, the city of Carthage became a serious industrial rival to early Rome. Carthage used the alloys, previously adopted by the Lydians, in making her coins. The goddess Persephone adorned her electrum staters, a Carthaginian horse was on their reverse.

The Punic wars fought with Rome finally led to the defeat and destruction of Carthage.

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(Continued on page 142)

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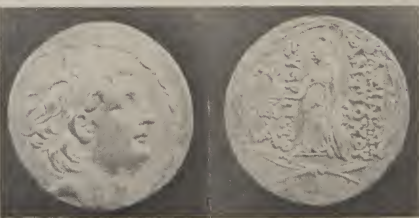
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From Top to Bottom:

Top: A gold octodrachm shows the Queen on the obverse with veiled head; a double cornucopia on the reverse.

Bottom: The goddess Persephone, adorned the electrum staters; a Carthaginian horse was on their reverse.



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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

## Question:

I just returned from a visit to Buffalo, N.Y. While there I learned that merchants in that area were placing \$10 and \$20 bills under ultraviolet light to check whether they were counterfeit or genuine. The paper used for the counterfeit glows to bluish-white. The real money does not glow.

I had four \$1 bills plus other bills in my pocket book. One of the \$1 bills glowed. All the rest of my folding money responded as being genuine.

I have two questions: 1) Is the ultraviolet light test valid? 2) If so, why would anyone make counterfeit \$1 bills? I have checked it carefully with a magnifying glass and cannot find even a trace of a flaw in the printing. It is serial No 7513447E, Washington, D.C. 7, Series 1969.

—L.M.L., New Jersey

## WANTED

**WANTED TO BUY:** Old tokens, medals, badges, buttons. — Earl Romay, Box 201, Bluffton, Ind. jcl2698

**WANTED TO BUY:** U.S. coins, gold and obsolete currency. — A. S. Alexander, Box 1893 Charleston, W.Va. 25327 mvl22511

**WANTED SILVER COINS:** Dated 1945 or before, any condition, dimes, quarters, halves and dollars. Paying 12% over face. Any amount. Ship to — Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis, Mo. 63132 ap126581

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**WANTED TO BUY** any U.S. currency, early Colonial, Continental, Confederate, broken bank notes, obsolete, fractional, encased postage stamps, large and small size currency, etc. Write and describe what you have to sell. — Superior Currency, Box 302, Superior, Wis. 54880 mhl26942

**CASH** for old elongated (rolled out) coins from fairs, expositions, places and events by collector. — Bob Callender, 155 W. Market, Napanee, Ind. 46550 d4637

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**16 LOTS IN LAKE** subdivision 45 miles NW of Minneapolis, \$66 each or trade for coins or what? All offers considered. — Landowner, Box 31, San Juan, Tex. 79589 jcl3844

## Answer:

I have never heard of an ultra violet test to detect counterfeits. This perhaps might work on some but not all, for the types of paper, ink, processes could affect the results.

Usually counterfeit bills are of the \$10 and \$20 denominations. There have been \$1 notes known, but the denomination is too small for the counterfeiter.

I am not an expert on counterfeiting detection. Would suggest you contact the Treasury Department, Washington, D.C. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

I want to find out the value of these 8 coins. Also what would be the value of a Chinese cash coin, about 2 inches in diameter, square hole, Emp. HA, You - 2223 - 2197 - B.C.

It is not a replica. Thank you.

—W.P., Illinois

## Answer:

Here is the best info I can give you on your coins. The difference between a Roman As and a Dupondus usually is told by the metal they are made of, one is bronze, the other brass.

Designs on the reverse of these are difficult to identify, not being very clear. I therefore have placed down the most probable description. As to values, the majority of these run about the same price regardless of the reverse design.

Marcus Aurelius Probably As, Rx Minerva standing L. holding Victory and leaning on shield VG \$7.50.

Gordian III As Rx Gordian standing holding spear and Globe VG-F \$7.50.

Hadrian As, Rev. Virtus Standing; or Pax Standing, \$6.00.

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Alexander Severus, small bronze \$3. Small piece, apparently Theodosius I, 1/2 Seliqua VF \$4.00.

Papal States 1788 one side seems to be mutilated, if so, no value, otherwise, \$2.50.

The large Chinese "Cash" or Temple coins usually retail for around \$5 to \$6. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

Please identify these coins as per the rubbings enclosed.

Enclosed are rubbings of an 1879 French ten centime piece. I received it in a trade with another collector. I would like to know the value of it in French and United States money.

—A.G.M.

## Answer:

Your French 10 centimes in very fine condition retails for around 25 cents. —A.F., Florida

## Question:

Please identify these coins as per the rubbings enclosed.

—G.R.D., New York

## Answer:

There were two 1/4 Real silver pieces struck, one for Charles IV, and the other for Ferdinand VII. These catalog at \$5 each, were coined in Mexico City mint. These were also made for various other mints in South America.

Your 1 Guinea piece with the head of George I of England upon it, must be some kind of experimental coin or token for I cannot find any record regarding it. A "Guinea" would normally be a gold coin about the size of our nickels, or slightly larger.

The third piece is a common Victoria model penny with silver center. These, I believe were made in Germany for possible acceptance in England. —C.F., Florida

**Question:** If I knew something of the value of these coins (if they are, as I believe), then I could decide better the value to put on the buttons, as I want to sell them. I would appreciate it if you could find time to answer.

P.S. They are signed with a capital L and R entwined on the left hand side.

Also the likeness of the engraving is like the features in the encyclopedia, with amazing perfection.

—Mrs. H.C.S., Wisconsin

## Answer:

Coins that were made in France around the 13th century were very crude pieces. The design on your buttons appears to be much better executed than what would have been made at the time. The lettering is also wrong for the time.

I therefore think these buttons were struck with these designs purely for use as buttons, not as coins.

If they were coins, the fact that they have been made into buttons would have destroyed their Numismatic value anyway, so the button valuation should be figured for them as a button only, not a coin.

Incidentally, the L and R are for Louis, Rex, in other words Louis, King. —C.F., Florida

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# Magic Bank

By F. H. GRIFFITH

Magicians performing their various feats of magic certainly have what we could call universal appeal. And when we consider the word itself, magic, it so well defines and conveys its own meaning. In any case, a select interesting group of mechanical banks have to do with magic and one of them, now to be discussed, is named the Magic Bank, No. 211 in the numerical classification. Some other mechanicals that make up this group are the Magician Bank, Magic Safe, Magic Bank, Mikado Bank, Columbian Magic Savings Bank, and the Presto (an illusion effect). The various trick drawer banks like the Trick Savings Bank also fit into this category since the coin seems to disappear. Included in these are the wooden chests like Serrill Patent and others in iron such as the Presto Bank and Chandeliers Bank. There are several mechanicals, for example the Presto Savings Bank, that are border-line cases, but it is not necessary or particularly important at this time to list them.

The outstanding bank with the magic theme is the Mikado, a mechanical that just seems to have everything going for it. Of course, we can't forget the Magician Bank, which in its action and appearance is so completely appropriate of its name. This bank, by the way, is one of the writer's favorites. Now we come to the Magic Bank and a rather odd circumstance. Certainly that name itself would place this bank in the magic group. And most certainly the coin would almost seem to disappear with the fast action involved. However, the bank actually represents a building of the "bank" type and the word "Cashier" appears on the door over the figure of the man. This bank then in its action and appearance is very much the same as the National Bank, which would not under any normal circumstances be classed in the magic group. This circumstance of the Magic Bank is not earth shaking, but it most surely is a point of interest and due consideration.

The Magic Bank was patented under two different patents with different dates. The first, August 5, 1873,

actually covers the National Bank, but due to similarities as mentioned here it also applies to the Magic Bank. This patent was issued to H. W. Prouty of Boston, Mass. On March 7, 1876 a patent was issued to Mr. Prouty which covers just the Magic Bank. That is to say this patent simplified certain aspects of the National Bank, such as the figure moving back and forth behind the door. This could easily get out of order and actually, therefore, the Magic Bank is a refinement of the National Bank. Naturally by placing the figure of the cashier on the back of the door considerable manufacturing time and expense were saved. The J. & E. Stevens Company of Cromwell, Conn., manufactured the Magic Bank, as well as the National Bank.

The writer has always felt that the National Bank is a somewhat under-rated mechanical. It is difficult to find one in even fairly good condition and examples of the bank just don't turn up very often. It is highly likely this is due to the fact it may have been made just during the three year period between the patent dates of 1873 to 1876. In other words, when

the Magic Bank went into production, since it more or less replaced the National Bank, manufacture of the National was discontinued at the time or not too long thereafter.

The Magic Bank pictured is an unusually fine all original example in extra nice paint condition. Colors are as follows: The roof, highlighting and outlining of the windows, and the base are a dark blue. The chimney is a very light blue topped in red and striped in blue. The front, back, and sides of the building are the same light blue as the chimney. The corners and underpart of the overhang of the roof are red. The door,

(Continued on page 51)

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(Continued from page 49)

when in closed position, has red outlining with a tan center section. The top part of this section has flower representation in green, white, yellow and black. Under this are decorations in white and red. With the door in position as shown in the picture the outlining is again in red with the word "Cashier" in white. The cashier has pink facial color with features in black, he wears a white shirt, yellow vest, black suit, and his hair is black. The background behind the figure is medium blue and the tray is dark blue. The section below the figure is the same as on the door front. The domed inner part of the building in which the door revolves is medium blue with red flooring. The name "Magic Bank" is in blue and this completes a quite colorful bank.

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By CHARLES F. FRENCH

In the early days, Arlie and I frequently took trips into Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire to see if we could find any old time coin collections. There was an old antique dealer in Manchester, Vt., named Andy Oatman. In his travels he'd pick up all the coins he could find in the bookshelves and then sell them to us when we visited him. I remember sitting around his dining room table, dickering back and forth for his coins. While there was lots of dickering and joshing, we always came away with all he had.

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(Continued on page 158)

**Scarce Gem BU Jefferson Nickels:** 39P 70c, 41S 70c, 42P type II \$5.15, 45D \$1.25, 48D \$1.05, 48S 65c, 52D \$1.25, 53S 35c, 55P 75c, 56P 20c, 58P 35c, 59P 20c. All 12 for \$12. Postpaid. — Uncle Bob's Coins, Box 10, Rosemead, Calif. 91770 s32301

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• \$10 Ind. BU	\$5 Liberty	\$40.00	
• \$5 Indian	\$5 Liberty BU	\$55.00	
• \$5 Ind. BU	\$3 Gold AU	\$325.00	
• \$3 Gold	\$3 Gold BU	\$450.00	
• \$3 Gold XF	\$2 1/2 Liberty	47.50	
• \$2 1/2 Ind. BU	\$2 1/2 Liberty BU	\$45.00	
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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

Will you kindly give me any information and value you can on the following:

Indian head penny(?). Legend, "United We Stand", date, 1863.

Other side, Broas Pie Baker, One Country, 181 18 St., N.Y.

—Mrs. L. L., New York

## Answer:

Your coin is one of many varieties of Civil War, merchants tokens. These usually retail for around \$1.25 each.

—C. F., Florida

## Question:

Could you give me any information as to possible value of these two pieces?

1. Dull silver color medal, lightweight, two inches diameter. One side marked "Discovery of Hudson River by Henry Hudson, A.D. MDCIX. The American Numismatic Society, Hudson-Fulton Celebration Comm." It has a picture of H. Hudson standing at the side of his ship with several other sailors; three statues seated, on other side; bottom marked in tiny print "First use of steam in navigation of Hudson River, 1807." Rim is marked Whitehead-Hoag. Condition is proof. It looks almost new.

2. Tiny, gold color, just half-inch diameter, marked U.S. Mint on top, with picture of building in center, and Philadelphia 1882 or 32. I can't read the date which is very tiny. The other side has the Lord's Prayer in microscopic writing. Condition is also proof; there is a tiny hole at the top with a loop. Don't know if it is original.

Many thanks for whatever information you can give me.

—L. B., New York

## Answer:

No. 1 is a medal issued by the American Numismatic Society in New York City to commemorate the Hudson-Fulton Celebration in 1909. I would suggest that you contact them to ascertain its value.

No. 2 is one of many common "Lord's Prayer" tokens issued the latter part of the 19th century. Value most likely 25c. These are brass.

—C. F., Florida

## Question:

Here are some rubbings of a coin that has been puzzling me for quite a while. The obverse has a bust of George Washington with the words "General Washington" surrounding it. On the reverse is an eagle surrounded by the words "Compositions-

Spiel-Marke." The edge of the coin is smooth and looks like it is made of brass.

I would appreciate any information at to when it was made; what for; and if it has any value.

—J. S., New York

## Answer:

Composition Spiel Marke in German means "Composition Play Money." There are many varieties of these tokens. They were originally issued as gaming tokens and were used for gambling. At present one such as you have retails for around \$1.00.

—C. F., Florida

## Question:

The pencil rubbings enclosed are of a copper coin no one seems to know about. I looked it up in a 1964 edition of "A Guide Book of United States Coins", and found it on page 225.

It gives the history of the coin I have along with a 5-dollar and a 10-dollar piece. My coin is in excellent condition. The book does not give any price.

I would appreciate your help in pricing and identifying it.

—E. E., Missouri

## Answer:

I have examined your pencil rubbing carefully. The Cincinnati Mining Company coins are of gold and of \$5 and \$10 denominations.

There is a possibility that your piece was a trial coin or pattern for a \$20 coin, but close examination of the lettering and design indicates that it is most likely of recent issue. The lettering is not as crude on the head as it is on your piece. It is therefore my opinion that this is a recent fantasy, not a rare original pattern. If it were the latter it would be of great value. —C. F., Florida

## Question:

I. gold \$20 piece, II. Silver 50c piece (1892) (1907).

Enclosed are tracings of coins. I would like to know their value.

—Mrs. J. L. E., Mississippi

## Answer:

Your \$20 gold piece is in apparent excellent condition and as such currently retails by dealers to collectors at \$70.

The 1892 Columbian half-dollar retails for \$5.

—C. F., Florida

## Question:

I have as a gift from a friend seven paper bills—notes—of Japan. All are apparently old, but not in first class shape. However, all readable.

I have seven Japan bills of various denominations and sizes, also one China note made by "The Central Bank of China" for 1000 customs gold units, signed by Gen. Manager and Assistant General Manager. It is torn at the top side over half way. I think I can mend it if it's of any value.

—R. J. B., California

## Answer:

From your description these are either pre- or during-World War II paper money and none are redeemable. These notes in fine or better condition usually retail for from 5c to 25c per note. —C. F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed find a picture of a coin I found in an old torn down building here in town.

I am unable to find information on this coin, the continental pewter dollar, 1776.

Could you inform me as to how many coins were made of this type and also how many castings were made of them. There was no U.S. mints at that time.

—S.B., Pennsylvania

## Answer:

The 1776 Continental dollar in pewter was an experimental or pattern coin and is very rare. There are three varieties of these and yours is with the word "Currency" spelt with one "R." You say you found this in an old building, this most likely accounts for the bad corroded condition it is in. I am inclined to believe from what you say that it is a genuine coin even though copies have been made. In extremely fine condition these retail for around \$775. The corroded condition of yours, however materially reduces its value and I believe it would be worth around \$100 if genuine. —C. F., Florida

## Question:

Here are some rubbings of some Swedish coins I have. I've given you as much information as possible. Could you tell me the value of them plus some background information. Good luck.

—L.C., Hawaii

## Answer:

Your first coin is a three Ore coin of Adolph Frederick of Holstein Gottorp, King of Sweden, 1751-1771, catalog value \$1; the other a two Ore piece same, catalog value \$2.

The small piece with "A Ritter" must be a merchant's token of some sort, value unknown.

The last, pencil rubbing is rather hard to read, but Carl XIV was known as Johan, French Marshall Berriotte. The coin is a fraction of a Skilling, value between 50c and \$1.50 depending upon what the fraction of a skilling it is. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

We find your column in HOBBIES most interesting and informative. Enclosed please find S.A.S.E. Thanks for any information you can give us concerning a \$10 bill we have. It's "Series of 1928 B" and it reads "Redeemable in gold on demand at the U.S. Treasury, or in gold or lawful money at any Federal Reserve Bank." Looked so great to read "redeemable in gold!"

We were wondering if this would be considered a "numismatic collectors item?" Is it worth more than \$10 "lawful money?" Serial number is C-49667837A—N.O. Woods was Treas. of U.S., A.W. Mellon was Sec. of Treasury at the time of printing.

—Mr. & Mrs. S.J.S., Illinois

## Answer:

There are no notes that are now redeemable in gold. This pledge was legally rescinded. Your note is not a "Gold Coin" note but a Federal reserve note. It has no premium unless it is in crisp, new, unfolded condition.

—C.F., Florida

(Continued on page 139)

# Superb U. S. Quality Sets

Beautiful Select Brilliant Une. Sets—With or without Albums. Buy Bebee's "Top Quality" Coins & make your First cost your Last cost. Thousands do!

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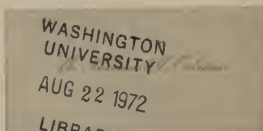
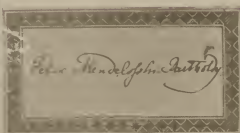
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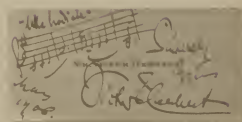
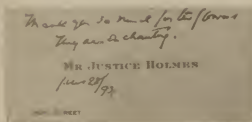
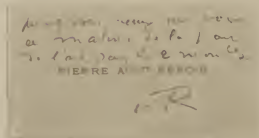
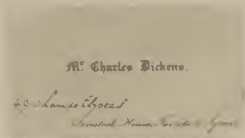
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The Magazine for Collectors



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The Magazine for Collectors

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September, 1972

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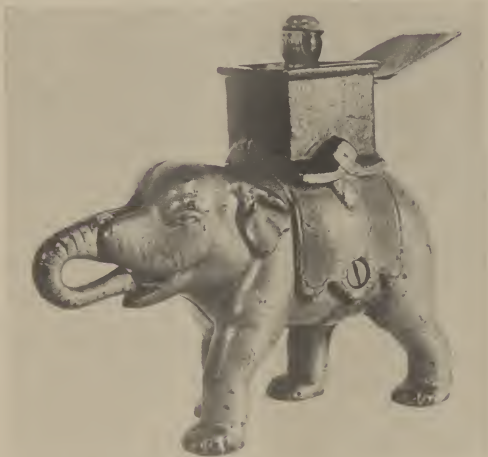
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# Elephant Howdah

—MAN POPS OUT—

By F. H. GRIFFITH



One of the more interesting banks in the elephant group of the mechanicals is our choice as No. 212 in the numerical classification. This is the Elephant Howdah (Man Pops Out), and it has the desirable feature of surprise action—the man emerging from the covered howdah. The only marking on the bank is the wording “Pat Apld For” on the underside of the cover of the howdah. This is significant, but, as has been mentioned numbers of times in the past, if this is all we have to go on to date a bank or to try to locate patent papers, it is of no help at all.

At this point, with reference to pat-

ent papers, we would like to divert from the Elephant Howdah to go rather briefly into several important factors concerning patented mechanical banks. Here and there some have more or less minimized or misdirected the importance of patent papers and their relationship to the mechanicals so covered. Anyone doing this must not be well informed and misinformation is worse than no information at all. For example, it is reasonably well known that a certain bank patented and dated, we will say 1882, does not necessarily mean that all examples of this particular bank were made in 1882.

Mechanicals with patent dates have the dates they were patented, not manufactured. Keep in mind, of course, that certain numbers of dated mechanical banks were made in the year of their patent date. This now brings up an important point. Any mechanical bank having the inscription “Patent Applied For” thereon, where other examples of the same bank show a patent date, means that particular example of the bank is at least as old as the date, but more likely somewhat prior to the date. This is why we can say the Frog On Round Base patented August 20, 1872 is another

bank we can place in the 100 year old category in this year of 1972. Some dated examples of this bank that exist today are in fact 100 years old and others may be 95 years old, but that's not the point. And should a Frog On Round Base have “Patent Applied For” on the bank, then we know for sure it is at least 100 years old.

Above and beyond the dates of patent papers covering mechanical banks is their importance concerning background, purpose, the designer and inventor, possible manufacturer, and, of course, the drawings. Patent papers on the mechanicals are an interesting study in themselves and they add so much stature and factual information that it would seem incredible to minimize them in any fashion.

Now back to the bank on hand, the Elephant Howdah (Man Pops Out).

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As mentioned, the inscription "Pat Apid For" appears on the underside of the howdah cover. Well this is one of those mechanicals that to the best of the writer's knowledge was only made with this inscription and it may well be that no patent was ever issued on the bank. The writer has never seen an example, nor does he know of any, that have a date in place of the inscription. Also he has never seen any patent papers that would apply to the bank. In any case, an old manufacturer's catalog is helpful to us in establishing a time period for the bank and who made it. It is the illustrated and priced catalog of the Enterprise Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia, Pa. They were iron founders and probably best known for their famous line of coffee grinders. The catalog is dated 1884 and on page 37 appears what they called the Enterprise Elephant Bank, which is the bank we now have under discussion. At the time, as shown in their catalog, the price of the bank was \$5.00 per dozen, packaged three dozen in a case.

The bank shown is in extra fine original condition and it is a difficult item to find in this fashion. Colors are as follows: The figure of the animal is bronze gold, the blanket is red, and the howdah has blue sides with a red top. Gold decoration is on each bottom side of the howdah. The man inside is wood and he wears his original blue cloth coat. It's a challenge to find the bank having this figure with the original coat. His hat is painted red, his hair black, and facial features are in black with red mouth and white eyes.

To operate, the trunk is raised up or the figure of the man is pressed down. In either case, both lock or snap into position. The top of the howdah is then manually closed. A coin is then placed in the elephant's mouth. On pressing the small lever to the rear of the howdah the trunk snaps down knocking the coin inside the elephant. At the same time the figure of the man pops out of the howdah knocking or flipping the cover back. The bank is pictured in this described position after the operation.

In closing we would like to refer once more to mechanicals now in the century old category. Including those that will reach this mark in 1972, we have the following: Serrill Patent Bureau (both types) - Halls Excelsior - Horse Race - Frog On Arched Track - Home Bank (both types) - Frog On Round Base.

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# Numismatics

Conducted by CHARLES F. FRENCH

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**WANTED.** United States Gold: paying \$20 each for \$1; \$2.50, \$5; \$25 each for \$10; 50 dollars each for \$20. Foreign and damaged gold also wanted. Any amount. — Jake Hendin, Box 12413, St. Louis, Mo. 63132 ap126712

**PAYING TOP prices** for gold coins, old currency, Confederate, fractional, bank notes. Large quantity bank references. — Claude Wadsworth, 5521 1st Ave., South Birmingham, Ala. 35212 d63351

**WANTED TO BUY** any U.S. currency, early Colonial, Continental, Confederate, broken bank notes, obsolete, fractional, encased postage stamps, large and small size currency, etc. Write and describe what you have to sell. — Superior Currency, Box 302, Superior, Wis. 54880 mhl26742

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## CONDITION AFFECTS COIN VALUE

By CHARLES FRENCH

Late in the Thirties I bid on a group of gold dollars that appeared in a catalog issued by a Western New York State dealer. They all were listed as "Brilliant Proofs".

I was sent eight gold dollars. None were proofs. Most, however, were uncirculated or Extremely Fine.

I sent them back with a statement that he had offered "proofs," and if he had them I would take them. After shipment came by return mail; the same coins all shiny and polished.

I sent them back again with the comment, "They are the same coins. What did you clean them with?"

I received his reply: "Cleaned with my special W W Cleaner. Like it? I can sell it to you wholesale."

Arle had a pen pal in California from whom we used to buy Trade Dollars. Periodically he would send us a hundred at a time, at 75 cents each. Most of them were Extremely Fine to Uncirculated, all dates and mint marks included. He said he got them from the Orient.

A couple of times when we wrote him we addressed him as "Harold."

Every letter thereafter had a note, "Tell the girl to get my name right. It's Harald not Harold!"

One time we stopped to call on a very nice lady who had written us from Massachusetts. She had the collection of a relative that she wanted us to see.

Although the collection was rather nice the outstanding thing she showed us was a small box with about 40 or 50 Governor Clinton Colonial Cents, all uncirculated. Then she brought out the original dies for them.

It turned out she was related distantly to Bolen, the collector who made so many copies of early Colonial Coins. I often wonder what became of these.

On November 30th, 1959, I sent my order in for 100, 1960 proof sets.

I received them the middle of March. A few weeks later a traveling dealer from Western New York State came into our store and asked if I had any 1960 proof sets, and if so how much they were.

I asked him a high price for the time, \$5 per set. He said he'd take all I had.

This made me suspicious and I refused to sell him more than two sets. Shortly afterwards we heard of the small date cents and upon inspection found that all of our sets had small date cents!

I have been interested in boating

(Continued on page 141)

## COINS FOR SALE

**LINCOLNS**, 1909-1934 PD5, 15 different \$1.50. 8U Silver Dollar, my choice, \$4.25. — Jim Archard, Box 453, Rock Falls, Ill. 61071 n363

**PENNY** in Bottle \$3.75 dozen; \$28.80 gross; 1000 \$180. Plus postage. — Pollard's, 2219 Gideon, Zion, Ill. 60099 ap124201

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**FREE IKE DOLLAR** with purchase of obsolete coin set, Indian Head cent, Buffalo nickel, Mercury dime, Morgan quarter, Walking Liberty half \$4.50 plus 35c postage, handling. — Cooley's, Pearl City Rd., Freeport, Ill. 61032 s3625

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# COIN QUIZ

By CHARLES FRENCH

25c per letter for answering coin questions. Send pencil rubbings. Do not send us the coins.

## Question:

Enclosed are 12 tracings. I would like their values. Maybe I purchased some of these from you.

40 years ago I bought coins from all kinds of dealers, one in Chicago. Thank you. —W.L.P., Illinois

## Answer:

It is possible you have purchased coins from us, I was formerly located in Troy, N.Y.

Your coins, for the most part, are difficult to check for little is known about Fractional or small coins of this era. Some may be very rare but demand is not there for them to realize their true value.

Here is what I can tell you.

Scotland - Charles I, 2 Pence or ½ Merk, 1637, catalog at \$8.50.

England - Silver Groat of Henry IV (to be sure it is Henry IV), rare, catalog at \$150; Groats of Henry VII, catalog at \$12.50; Silver penny (only thing coined by Henry III), \$12.50

St. Gallen, Germany - Bracteate, (paper thin), AD 1240, \$10 to \$20. Mailand, Italy - 1 Denar of Carlo V di Spagna, \$20.

Gronigen, Netherlands - Siege coin of 6¼ Stivers, \$20 to \$25.

Bremen - 1749, 24 Groschen of Francis, under Free City, \$4.

Munster - 1661, 4 Pfennig, \$1.50.

Prussia or Salsberg - 3 Groschen of Joachim II, 1540 and 1541, around \$5 each.

Genoa, Italy - 10 and 20 Soldi, 1675, valued at \$5 to \$10.

Denmark - 4 Skillings, \$2.50.

Naples and Sicily - 20 Grani of Charles II, \$5 to \$10.

Papala States - 1584, Gregory XIII, \$2.50. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

Item 1:

I am sending you pencil rubbings (which I have never seen before, or tried, until I read of it in your column). The coin's color looks like copper.

Side 1 - The coin is marked Deutsch-Ostafrikanische Gesellschaft. 1890. The figure on it is of an eagle.

Side 2 - Looks like some type of Arabian writing.

Item 2:

Also, I have about 10 Chinese coins with square holes in them. I am not sending you pencil rubbings of them, because I am sure they are worthless, but I would like to know about them.

Can you please give me information and value on these two coins? Thank you. —T.T., New York

## Answer:

Your first coin is a one-Pesa coin of German East Africa known as Yeoman #1, cataloging at \$2.50.

The Chinese pieces, if brass or copper are one-cash coins, most likely valued at 5 cents each, all I can tell without a pencil rubbing of them.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

On August 31st, I sent you eight tracings of coins. So far I have not received the values on them. Here are four more tracings. Please return tracings. Thank you.

—W.L.P., Illinois

## Answer:

Sorry for the delay in answering your two letters. We have been away on a vacation and just returned.

Now, relating to the various minor foreign coins you have sent pencil rubbings of. There is very little information available on coins of this type. I see you have them identified.

Many might be very rare, but as there are no known records as to quantities coined or amount available it would be hard to determine which is which. The problem with these is that there are so many coined during the Middle Ages, with limited numbers of collectors collecting them, what they should realize is not the case.

If I were to own these and wanted to sell them I would be satisfied with a figure of between \$2 an \$5 each for nice clear specimens. The one with the hole, of course, would not be worth that much.

As to the St. Louis medal, this is an unofficial medal. I have seen several of these and feel it should retail for around \$5. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

I am sending pencil rubbings of two coins. Would appreciate any information you could give me. Thank you. —B.N., Maryland

## Answer:

Large size Cents and Nickels were issued as Lucky tokens (not by the government) as souvenirs of various places, fairs, etc. The usually retail for around \$1.

The other coin, I presume, is silver; looks to be a Quarter Ecu of Louis XVI of France, worth around \$1.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

I just looked thru the HOBBIES Magazine for the first time and came upon the Coin Quiz. I have in my possession the coin I pencil rubbed below. It is marked 1676 and is, I believe, possibly of Danish or Dutch origin. It was found in a garden at Sheboygan, Wis.

Please identify and give a value if possible.

P.S. Are letters answered in the HOBBIES Magazine Coin Quiz only? Thank you. —O.A.F., Wisconsin

## Answer:

The coin you have is a 2/3 of a thaler piece of Gustave II Adolphus, King of Sweden. With a closer check you will probably find that the date upon it is 1616 not 1676, for Gustave died in 1632. Its value is around \$10.

## Question:

Enclosed find rubbing. One side has a picture of William Penn, with the word Penn on the left and the date 1682 on the right. On the other side is "Distributed by Employees of U.S. Mint during the Celebration of Pennsylvania's Bi-Centennial, Oct. 24, 1882." In the center of the coin is a crest.

I assume this is a token and is made of bronze or gold. It is in excellent condition. Does this have any value as a collectors item?

Also, does the Churchill Crown piece (uncirculated) issued in 1965, have value to a collector?

—Mrs. D.P.D., Iowa

## Answer:

What you have is a United States Mint Medal for William Penn, in bronze. Quite common. It retails for around 25 to 50 cents. The Churchill Crowns retail for around \$1.50.

—C.F., Florida

## Question:

Enclosed are pencil rubbings of an 1804 Island of Sumatra copper coin. I will try to describe the coin in hope it will help you determine its value.

The face of the coin has a shield in the center with a Knight's breastplate atop the shield, and a lion on each side of the shield that stands upright on its hind legs with its front legs resting on the shield and it holds in its paws a pole bearing a flag. The date, 1804, is at the base of this crest.

The reverse is marked with some symbols in the center which resemble Arabic writing. At the top is the letter P, and at the bottom are these figures, which pencil rubbing shows, I think.

The overall condition of the coin is excellent. I hope this helps you.

—P.N., Connecticut

## Answer:

Your coin is from the Island of Sumatra, a One-Kepling coin struck in 1804, or shortly thereafter. It is known as Graig #28, cataloging at 50 cents. —C.F., Florida

## Question:

I hope you answer personally, for my boy is in a big hurry. (Guess he needs the money). Someone gave him 3 silver dollars: one, 1896; one, 1889, both having a mint marks, one 1923. Can't make out mint mark, even with glass. Could be an s, but can't be sure. Circulated, worn, but in good condition. Please give me the current values.

I found a half-dime a few years ago, and someone told me its value was nil since it was not perfect. I did not believe him, so just gave it to my grand-son.

—Mrs. A.W., Missouri

## Answer:

The silver dollars mentioned dealers are paying from \$2.25 to \$2.40. They retail for around \$3.

As to your half dime, these are worth premiums of varying amounts, depending upon their condition. However if they are mutilated, holed, very badly worn, they would not be of any value, except face. —C.F., Florida

(Continued on page 139)

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